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Halifax Commission, 1877.
AWARD OF THE FISHERY COMMISSION.

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HALIFAX COMMISSION, 1877,

UNDER THE

TREATY OF WASHINGTON OF MAY 8, 1871.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOLUME III.



146847
6/9/18

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1878.

U.S. COMMISSIONER



U.S. COMMISSIONER

APPENDIX L.

[Continued.]

No. 32.

MICHAEL MACAULAY, of Gloucester, Mass., fisherman and master mariner, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster :

Question. You are skipper of a schooner out of Gloucester ?—Answer. Yes.

Q. What is the name ?—A. The Noonday.

Q. Where were you born ?—A. In Prince Edward Island.

Q. How many years have you been fishing ?—A. About twelve years.

Q. The first part of the time for mackerel and at present for cod ?—A. Yes.

Q. How do you happen in here ?—A. I came in here with a sick man from the Grand Banks.

Q. And you have been in command of this vessel two years ?—A. Yes; about that.

Q. Before that you were fishing as a sharesman ?—A. Yes.

Q. How many years were you cod-fishing ?—A. Seven years, I guess.

Q. Where ?—A. On the Grand Bank.

Q. Now, when you began to go cod-fishing to the Grand Bank, how did you supply yourselves with bait ?—A. We took it from home. We used to get some on the Banks in the summer time.

Q. What did you take with you ?—A. Salt bait, pogy slivers.

Q. Slivers are pogies and menhaden cut off the bones ?—A. Fish cut off the bone each side.

Q. What else ?—A. We used to put that on, and what we used to pick up on the Bank; small halibut and other small fish.

Q. How long is it since you began to go to Newfoundland for bait ?—A. Well, it is about four years since I have first been there for herring. I guess we were there as soon as any of them.

Q. When you go to Newfoundland for herring, how do you get it ?—A. We take it out of the seines.

Q. How do you pay for it ?—A. We pay so much.

Q. How much, usually ?—A. Well, there are certain times they charge pretty high. At other times they don't charge so high. We paid as high as \$25 this summer, and took as much as we wanted.

Q. How many times have you been in this summer for bait ?—A. I have been in for herring twice.

Q. What else have you been for?—A. Squid, twice.

Q. How did you get squid?—A. Well, they caught them; jigged and took them alongside the first time, and we bought them salted the second time.

Q. Who jigged them the first time?—A. The natives.

Q. How much did you pay for them?—A. Two dollars a barrel.

Q. The salt squid did you get last time?—A. Yes.

Q. Does this answer for bait?—A. It is not so good; but we could not get anything else.

Q. How many times have you been to Newfoundland for bait?—A. Since I have been skipper?

Q. Yes.—A. Well, I have been about six times in two years.

Q. And how many times did you go before that, while you were sharesman?—A. I have been back and forward for the last four years. I have been there as much as, I suppose, ten or twelve times before I went skipper.

Q. Now, won't you tell the Commissioners what is the longest and what is the shortest time that it has ever taken to go from the Bank into Newfoundland to get bait and return to the fishing ground?—A. The shortest time I have been would be about nine days.

Q. What is the longest?—A. I have been four weeks.

Q. How did that happen?—A. I could not get it. I was hunting it up, trying to get it.

Q. Now, you have fished with salt bait taken from home, not going near Newfoundland, and you have gone in as a skipper half a dozen times, and as sharesman ten or twelve times to buy bait?—A. Yes.

Q. I want you to state whether in your opinion the advantages of going to Newfoundland to procure bait are worth anything.—A. Well, when we used to carry bait from home, we used to catch some fish, but since we went to run fresh bait we didn't catch half the quantity we used to catch, I don't think, when we used to take bait from home, because we lose half our time and more looking for fresh bait.

Q. You lose half your time?—A. Yes.

Q. You don't consider it an advantage?—A. No; I don't consider it an advantage at all.

Q. Have you ever got caplin there for bait?—A. No; I never took any caplin. I have never been in a vessel that had any.

Q. Now, before you were cod-fishing you made some mackerel voyages, I think?—A. Yes; I have been four or five years for mackerel before I went for cod.

Q. What vessels were you in? Begin with the earliest mackerel schooner you were in.—A. I have been in the Moonlight. That was the first vessel, John Spriggan, captain.

Q. What year?—A. About 1865, I guess.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take that year?—A. Well, I took off and on about 150 barrels, I guess.

Q. Where did you take them?—A. Most of them around the Magdalens.

Q. What was the next schooner you were in?—A. The Easterwood, Captain Galasky.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take in her?—A. Well, between 180 and 190. I could not be certain; off and on, about that.

Q. Where were they taken?—A. We caught them between the North Cape and around the Magdalens; up between the Magdalens and North

Cape. We used to fish in different places, but the most part was taken around the Magdalens.

Q. What was the third schooner you were in?—A. The Charles P. Thompson. No, I was mistaken. The second schooner I was in was the James Bliss.

Q. Who was the captain?—A. James Walsh.

Q. How many barrels did you take in her?—A. Two hundred and forty.

Q. Where were they taken?—A. Part of them to the northward of North Cape, what we call Bradley Bank, and abroad off North Cape.

Q. Were any of those taken within three miles?—A. No, we didn't catch any. I don't know but we tried and got a few there, but not anything over a dozen or so.

Q. Where was that?—A. It was to the westward of North Cape—what they call Tignish.

Q. You think you caught a dozen barrels inshore?—A. No, not a dozen; we might have caught a dozen or twenty mackerel to a man.

Q. What was the fourth vessel you were in mackereling?—A. The Charles P. Thompson was the fourth.

Q. What year was that, do you remember?—A. Well, it was about 1869, I guess.

Q. Who was her captain?—A. Edward Cash.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take in her?—A. About 95 barrels; between that and 100. We caught them up northward.

Q. Was she a new vessel?—A. No. The James Bliss was a new vessel.

Q. Now I would ask you, so far as your observation goes, what is the principal fishing-ground for mackerel-schooners in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Where I have principally fished in my time was around the Magdalens. That was the principal ground in my going to fish.

Q. Did you ever fish much off the Bight of Prince Edward Island?—A. No, I never did.

Q. Have you been there?—A. Yes; I have been there working up and down shore, but I never fished any there. I might have tried abroad off East Point, or abroad off the North Cape; but I have never been in a vessel that fished in the bend of the island, because it is a place where they don't want to fish very often.

Q. Why not?—A. Because they don't like the ground. They don't like to fish. They don't call it a very safe place to fish.

Q. Is it a place that is avoided by—A. Fishermen? Yes.

Q. Why?—A. Because it is a place where, if they are caught with the wind easterly or northeasterly, we can't get out.

Q. You lived at Prince Edward Island 20 years?—A. Yes; I was born there and lived there until I came to Gloucester.

Q. Do you ever fish there from the shore?—A. Well, I have gone fishing there from the shore. What part of the island did you live at?—

A. At St. Peter's, right in the bend.

Q. Did you ever see boats fishing on the island?—A. Yes.

Q. I would like to know how far from the shore these fishing boats around Prince Edward Island go out for mackerel, or used to when you were there?—A. I would judge in my way that they would go from three to five miles.

Q. One question more; as you have been sailing out of Gloucester now for some years, what is the principal fishing business of Gloucester?—A. I should think codfish and halibut the principal.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. You lived at St. Peter's?—A. Yes.

Q. How long since you lived on the island?—A. Twelve years.

Q. That would be 1865?—A. Yes.

Q. That was when you first went in the Moonlight?—A. Yes.

Q. You have never been on the island since you left there?—A. No.

Q. How old are you now?—A. About 33.

Q. You left the island when you were about 21?—A. Yes.

Q. Are your people engaged much in St. Peter's in the fisheries?—

A. They do go fishing a good deal. They catch fish enough for themselves any way.

Q. That is just what I want to know. I never understood that you engaged in the fisheries largely?—A. Well, they catch always enough for themselves. I don't know that they catch any more. That is all, I guess.

Q. There are no fishing-stages there?—A. No, they can't keep fishing-stages there.

Q. It is a very exposed place?—A. To my recollection that is so.

Q. Then you never were at any of the fishing-stages fishing on the island?—A. No.

Q. You never were to Rustico, New London, Cascumpec, or Tignish?—A. No.

Q. You never saw them fishing there?—A. I have seen the boats fishing there.

Q. Will you venture the assertion that those boats fishing off those places fish farther than three miles?—A. I should think off Rustico they fish as much as ten miles.

Q. As a general rule, you think that?—Yes, because it is a place with shoal water, and they have to go quite a piece off.

Q. Do you give that as your actual opinion or mere supposition?—A. My opinion is that I have seen them ages outside of ten miles.

Q. Where?—A. Where I have been fishing up and down in those vessels.

Q. But you have said you never fished around Prince Edward Island?—A. Well, I said I have made passages up and down the island.

Q. What year was that you made passages?—A. Well, probably I have been—I don't know—but I have been every year I have been in the bay. Probably we might work up from the northward up as far as East Point.

Q. Now, every man who was brought here from Rustico, and every man at Rustico who has made an affidavit, has stated that three-fourths to nine-tenths of the fish caught in that harbor are caught within three miles of land.

Mr. FOSTER objects to this question, for which, after a short argument, the following question was substituted.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Here is a deponent, Alexander McNeil, who says:

I would think the number of fishing-boats at Rustico harbors would number about one hundred and fifty.

My twenty years' experience has proved to me that the best mackerel-fishing around our coast is about a mile from the shore, in from 7 to 10 fathoms of water.

All the fish caught by the boats are taken within a mile of the coast, many of them within half a mile, during the months of July and August, but during the months of September and October the boats take their catch farther out, say two miles or two and a half. It is a very rare occasion that they go out three miles or beyond it.

Of the total catch in the boats, over nine-tenths is caught well within the three-mile limit.

Have you sufficient experience off Rustico Harbor to give evidence in contradiction of that I have read?—A. Well, I state what I have said. I have seen boats over ten miles fishing for mackerel off Rustico.

Q. Have you had sufficient experience of fishing off Rustico to give any evidence?—A. I have never fished off Rustico.

Q. Will you say it is true or not?—A. I can't tell.

Q. How far have you been fishing off Rustico Harbor?—A. I never fished.

Q. How often have you passed within three miles there?—A. I don't know—very seldom.

Q. Did you ever?—A. I don't know that I did.

Q. Then you can't possibly tell whether the boats fish there or not?—A. I say I have seen them fishing off ten miles.

Q. Were they large or small boats?—A. Large.

Q. How often have you seen them fish off ten miles?—A. Five or six times.

Q. Is that as often as you have been there?—A. Probably that is as often.

Q. Have you seen them fishing in other parts of the island?—A. Yes.

Q. What other parts?—A. Up and down the shore. I have seen boats off shore fishing.

Q. Now, here is Daniel Ross, of Rustico, fish merchant. He says:

I myself am a practical fisherman and engage personally in the catching and curing as well as in the sale of the fish.

That the best mackerel-fishing is about one mile or one mile and a half from the coast-line of the shore, and very frequently the best catches are made much closer to the shore than that.

That the mackerel-fishing prosecuted in boats from the shore is chiefly within the limit of two miles; at times the schools of mackerel go farther out, extending as far as three miles and beyond that, but I have no hesitation in positively swearing that at least nine-tenths (9-10ths) of the mackerel caught by the boat-fishermen are caught within the three-mile limit.

Would you like, from your experience, to contradict that?—A. I could not tell you where they were caught, but I have said what I have said, that I have seen them fishing outside of three miles.

Q. How many boats did you see there?—A. I didn't count them.

Q. I want to know if you yourself ever fished up and down the coast of the island?—A. I might have tried, but never anything inside of three miles. I have never been in within three miles.

Q. When you were living on the island did you never see the American fleet sailing up and down?—A. Often.

Q. Many of them?—A. There used to be a good many.

Q. What number used you consider there were?—A. I could not tell; I don't know that I ever counted.

Q. How many was the fleet of American vessels supposed to be?—A. How many vessels?

Q. Yes. How many American vessels were there in the fleet sailing up and down?—A. Sometimes as high as three or four; sometimes ten or fifteen.

Q. Did you ever see as many as 100 at one time going past?—A. No.

Q. What would take them into that dangerous place?—A. Many of them passed up and down, probably—

Q. Have you any idea that they were fishing?—A. They may have been some of them fishing half way across.

Q. You could not see that?—A. Well, you could see them half way across.

Q. What? Twenty-eight miles from shore?—A. It is only twenty-eight miles across from East Point to Magdalen Islands.

Q. You were not at East Point. You were at St. Peter's.—A. You can't tell. I have been up and down.

Q. Well, you say, then, you have been at East Point?—A. I have been there often.

Q. Have you ever seen the fleet around East Point?—A. I have seen vessels in there.

Q. That is not what I asked you. Have you ever seen the fleet there?—A. Yes; I have seen the fleet.

Q. How many would you see?—A. Probably fifteen or twenty.

Q. You have never seen them within three miles there?—A. Not fishing—I never did.

Q. Have you seen them at all within three miles?—A. I have seen them sailing within three miles.

Q. Fifteen or twenty?—A. Yes.

Q. Were they not fishing?—A. I could not say they were fishing.

Q. Could you say they were not fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. How could you say that?—A. They were sailing. They don't fish when they are sailing.

Q. Have you never seen them within three miles unless they are sailing?—A. I have seen them at anchor within three miles.

Q. What were they doing there then?—A. They were making lee; it was blowing too hard.

Q. You don't know whether they were fishing then or not?—A. I never saw them.

Q. They go there for shelter, to that dangerous place?—A. There is no danger there. They have a way to get out of that part of the bay; but in the bend they haven't.

Q. Did you ever catch fish in Bay Chaleurs?—A. I did.

Q. In what vessel?—A. Well, what do you call Bay Chaleurs?

Q. Don't you know? As a master-mariner, don't you know where Bay Chaleurs is?—A. Well, I have fished across from the Magdalens.

Q. But don't you know what Bay Chaleurs is?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, why do you ask me?—A. Well, I call it right across from Magdalens to Bay Chaleurs. Wherever we fish down there we call it Bay Chaleurs.

Q. You call it Bay Chaleurs?—A. Yes; I call it Bay Chaleurs fishing.

Q. It has a good reputation for fishing, has it, the Bay Chaleurs; has it, among American fishermen?—A. Well, that is what I always hear them call it.

Q. Have you ever been in the Bay Chaleurs proper fishing?—A. Yes, I have.

Q. In what vessel?—A. I have been in the Charles P. Thomson.

Q. Any other?—A. I might be in the James Bliss too.

Q. Might you in any other vessel?—A. No.

Q. Will you swear you were not in Bay Chaleurs in the Moonlight or Easterwood?—A. I might be there working up and down. I don't know if ever I fished in there.

Q. You have no recollection of ever fishing in the Bay Chaleurs?—A. I don't know if ever I fished there.

Q. In the other two vessels you did; where did you fish?—A. We tried once at North Cape; that is, in the bay and well to the westward of it.

Q. Point out on the map where North Cape is.—A. Well, I know where it is.

Q. I want you to show it on the map.—A. (Witness points to North

Cape, Prince Edward Island.) That (pointing to waters between North Cape and Miramichi Bay) is what I call Bay Chaleurs fishing.

Q. Do you know Miscou Point?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you go around Point Miscou?—A. I have been to anchor there, not fishing.

Q. Then you have been inside of Point Miscou at anchor?—A. Yes.

Q. Were there other vessels there too?—A. There might be.

Q. Have you seen other vessels there?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever tried to fish in that bay?—A. No.

Q. Have you heard of other vessels fishing there?—A. I have heard of other vessels fishing there.

Q. You never tried to fish yourself?—A. No, I have never fished in a vessel that fished up in the bay, but I have been in vessels that fished off Miscou light.

Q. Did they make good catches?—A. No, nothing extra.

Q. How many did you catch off there?—A. Well, we might catch a dozen barrels or so.

Q. Did you ever fish on the Cape Breton shore?—A. I have been down to Margaree once.

Q. In the fall?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that known to be a good fishing-ground among the Americans?—A. I have heard talk that it used to be.

Q. Did you fish there?—A. I have been there once.

Q. Did you catch any fish?—A. Nothing worth speaking of.

Q. There were other vessels there; what year was that?—A. About 1868.

Q. What time of the year?—A. In the fall.

Q. That was after the mackerel-fishing in the bay was done?—A. No, it was about the first of the month, the first of October.

Q. Is that the season when they generally go to Margaree?—A. Yes, I have never been there but once.

Q. The time you went did they go?—A. There was a dozen sail when I called there.

Q. How long did you stay to see whether there were fish there or not?—A. One day.

Q. You can't tell whether the others caught them or not?—A. No.

Q. Have you ever been to Seven Islands?—A. No.

Q. Nor up the shores of the river St. Lawrence?—A. No.

Q. Nor around Bonaventure?—A. No, I have never been around Bonaventure, but I have been once at anchor at Port Daniel.

Q. Have you heard of this being a good fishing-ground?—A. No; I have heard it mentioned that fish were caught there, but never that it was a good fishing-ground.

Q. You don't know what quantities were caught, of course?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever ask whether it was good or not?—A. No.

Q. You never were a master of a vessel during those years you were in?—A. No; I was a mere hand.

Q. You caught 95 barrels one year, 150 another, 180 a third, and 240 another year. Were these very small catches?—A. Yes.

Q. And you never caught any within three miles?—A. I don't know but we might catch a few; never anything worth speaking of.

Q. And you didn't try?—A. We did try once or twice.

Q. Had you a license to fish when you were there?—A. I could not exactly tell you.

Q. But you ran in to try?—A. We were in making lee.

Q. You never tried to keep outside?—A. I could not tell you; I have

seen some vessels keep outside. I have seen them making lee and getting under way and running out.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. You have been seven years cod-fishing?—A. Yes, about seven years.

Q. Part of these at Grand Bank?—A. Yes, all.

Q. You commenced in '71, I think?—A. Yes, about that.

Q. Can you tell me what vessel you were in that year?—A. I have been in the Midnight.

Q. How many trips?—A. Three trips; that is, on the Grand Banks.

Q. Do you recollect the quantity of fish you took each trip?—A. Well, I could not exactly say.

Q. Did you use salt or fresh bait?—A. Salt.

Q. What bait did you first take?—A. Slivers the first trip. We got squid on the bank the second trip, and then used salt bait the last trip.

Q. Did you take any salt bait for the second trip?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You didn't use it?—A. No.

Q. What quantity did you take each trip?—A. Ten or fifteen barrels each trip.

Q. What vessel were you in the second trip?—A. I have been in the Midnight two years.

Q. How many trips did you make that year?—A. Two.

Q. What quantity did you take; do you remember?—A. I could not recollect.

Q. Did you use salt bait or fresh?—A. We used salt bait.

Q. Altogether, for the two trips?—A. No; we got some fresh bait on the Bank—some squid one trip; we caught them on the Bank.

Q. On the first trip you used altogether salt bait?—A. Yes.

Q. The third year, what vessel were you in?—A. I was in the Noon-day.

Q. Do you remember how many trips you made?—A. I was mistaken; in the third year I was in the Enola C.

Q. Do you remember how many trips?—A. I was only in her one trip; I was fresh fishing in the spring, and then went for salt fish.

Q. Fresh fishing on the American coast?—A. No; on the Grand Banks. We made three trips. We went in March; about the first of March.

Q. Do I understand that you went about the first of March and made three trips for fresh fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you made one trip for salt fish; do you recollect the quantity of fish you took?—A. I could not say; something over 140,000 pounds.

Q. That is salt fish?—A. Yes.

Q. You don't recollect the quantity of fresh fish you took?—A. No.

Q. Did you use salt bait that season?—A. Yes; we did catch some fresh bait on the Bank part of the trip.

Q. That is, on the salt-fishing trip you used partly salt bait and partly fresh?—A. Yes.

Q. The fourth year, what vessel were you in?—A. The Noonday.

Q. How many trips did you make that year?—A. Two trips.

Q. Do you remember the quantity you took?—A. We took 170,000 pounds the first trip.

Q. That would be in '74?—A. Yes.

Q. How much did you take the second trip?—A. We had 165,000.

Q. What bait did you use?—A. Fresh bait caught on the Banks.

Q. Now the fifth year, what vessel were you in?—A. The Noonday.

Q. How many trips did you make?—A. I made one salt trip.

Q. How much fish did you catch?—A. We caught 110,000.

Q. How many trips did you make for fresh fish?—A. We made three trips for fresh fish.

Q. Where did you get your bait that year?—A. In Newfoundland.

Q. That is the first year you went to Newfoundland, is it?—A. No; we were in the year before that.

Q. You stated before that you got bait on the Banks, now you say you got it in Newfoundland. Which is correct?—A. We got our bait in Newfoundland the fifth year.

Q. That is 1875?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that the first year you got it in there?—A. Yes.

Q. Just now you said you had been into Newfoundland for bait in 1874? Then you have only been in three years?—A. And this year.

Q. That is '75, '76, and '77—only three years?—A. Didn't I tell you I was in the first trip in the Noonday.

Q. Did you go into Newfoundland for fresh bait in 1874 for the first time, or was it in 1875?—A. I told you—

Q. Just answer simply?—A. 1874.

Q. Then you were incorrect just now when you said you caught it that year on the Banks?—A. Well, I caught part of it. The first trip we went into Newfoundland, and the second trip got it on the Banks.

Q. You went into Newfoundland in the spring for your first bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go?—A. To Fortune Bay.

Q. Did you take a seine and catch the bait yourself?—A. No.

Q. Did you employ people there to catch it for you?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels of bait did you get?—A. Somewhere about 40 barrels.

Q. And you gave them \$25 or thereabouts?—A. Not that year; it was \$50 that year.

Q. Well, now, in 1875 you say you got 110,000 pounds of fish. What vessel were you in in 1876?—A. The Noonday.

Q. How many trips?—A. One trip.

Q. How many fish did you take?—A. 80,000—78,000.

Q. Had you made any trips for fresh fish in the spring?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. Three or four—four.

Q. Where did you get bait for the fresh fish?—A. We got it down the shore here; some in Prospect.

Q. You caught the fresh bait yourselves?—A. No; we bought it there.

Q. Did you employ people to catch it for you?—A. They came along-side with it, and we bought it from them.

Q. What was it?—A. Herring.

Q. The trip you made for salt fish, where did you get bait?—A. Some on the Cape Breton shore. We got the first bait on the Cape Breton shore, and the next in St. John's.

Q. For the first three or four trips you went for fresh fish, and then you went for a trip for salted fish?—A. Yes.

Q. For the first bait for the salt fish you went to Cape Breton?—A. Yes.

Q. And the second bait to St. John's?—A. Yes.

Q. What time did you go into St. John's?—A. We went there about the last of October.

Q. What bait did you get then?—A. Squid.

Q. Was that fresh squid?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you went to the Banks and completed your trip?—A. Well, part of a trip; we didn't get much of a trip at that.

Q. You completed your 78,000 pounds?—A. Yes.

Q. And returned home?—A. Yes.

Q. What time did you get home?—A. I could not exactly say.

Q. Now, this year, what vessel were you in?—A. The Noonday again.

Q. What were you doing this year?—A. Salt-fishing.

Q. All the year?—A. Yes.

Q. How many trips have you made?—A. I am on the second now.

Q. Returning home?—A. No.

Q. Are you going out now?—A. I am going to the Banks. I have made one trip.

Q. How much did you take?—A. Off and on about 100,000.

Q. Where did you get bait for that trip?—A. At Fortune Bay.

Q. What time of the year?—A. About the 10th of May, the first bait.

Q. You live at Gloucester.—A. Yes.

Q. What time did you leave Gloucester?—A. We left on the 2d day of March.

Q. Where did you go in the interim between that and the 10th of May?—A. Fishing on the Banks, on Grand Bank.

Q. What bait did you use?—A. We took a little bait from home—enough to start with. I was fishing halibut, salt halibut.

Q. With what bait were you fishing?—A. We caught bait on the ground.

Q. You went from home without any bait at all?—A. We took enough to start with.

Q. What did you take?—A. About two or three thousand herring—three thousand.

Q. They were frozen herring?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you get them?—A. They came from down East.

Q. Did you go directly from that into Fortune Bay for fresh bait?—A. I fished on the Banks near two months.

Q. Did you go from that, after the 10th of May, to Fortune Bay for fresh bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you catch any bait in Fortune Bay?—A. No.

Q. Had you a herring seine on board?—A. No.

Q. Did you see many of your countrymen in there looking for bait?—A. Yes.

Q. A great many of them?—A. A good many.

Q. Did they catch bait themselves, some of them?—A. No, they never catch bait. They have it seined there.

Q. Were you on board their vessels?—A. Yes, I was.

Q. Are you not aware that many of them take down large herring seines and get bait themselves?—A. I never heard it.

Q. You never heard of their having barred any of the coves there?—A. No.

Q. During the last spring, in Fortune Bay, have they not barred herrings in the coves?—A. O, yes; they have them barred as long as six weeks waiting for the Americans to come for them; that is the natives I am speaking of.

Q. Have not the American cod-fishers, some of them, taken large herring-seines with them and used them for taking herring and barring the coves?—A. No; I haven't heard of it.

Q. You are now going out on your second trip?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, you have given us an account of your voyages, in 1874, 1875, 1876, and 1877; those are the years you used fresh bait?—A. Yes.

Q. You don't recollect your voyages for 1871, 1872, and 1873; those were the years you used salt bait?—A. Those years we used salt bait.

Q. You alleged just now that during the years you used salt bait your voyages were superior to those made when you used fresh bait?—

A. Yes.

Q. Well, you don't remember your catches when you used salt bait?—

A. I don't remember the quantity of fish we took home, because I was a hand. Probably I might have known if I had inquired into it.

Q. How is it you pledge your oath that during the years you used salt bait you took more fish than when you used fresh bait, when you don't remember what quantity of fish you took with the salt bait?—A. Well, I might have known nearly, but I could not tell exactly what fish we took to a pound or so.

Q. You have told me distinctly that you did not remember the quantities you took in 1871, 1872, and 1873?—A. No, I could not say exactly.

Q. You can't remember?—A. No. I know I got a good deal more money.

Q. If you can't remember the quantity of fish you took how can you say you took more than in the four succeeding years?—A. Well, I can tell, because the last two years I have been skipper myself, and the other two I have been with a man that had been in this vessel before I took her. I knew the number of fish because he and I worked together, and I found out what number. These other years I never asked the skippers probably the number of fish we landed.

Q. Well, you still affirm upon oath that you took larger quantities of fish with salt bait than with fresh?—A. Well, not with salt bait, but that and what we caught on the Banks.

Q. You stated now that you took a larger quantity with salt bait than with fresh?—A. Well, I didn't state that, but we catch bait on the Banks as well as using salt bait. I told you we were catching part on the Banks.

Q. Then you say you caught a larger quantity when you didn't go into the coast of Newfoundland?—A. Yes.

Q. You are sure as to that now?—A. Yes.

Q. You can't tell the Commission what quantity you took during those years? You can't remember?—A. Well, I could not tell you the certain number.

Q. Then how can you tell that the number was larger or smaller?—A. Because I made more money.

Q. Do you remember the amount of money you made in 1871?—A. Well, I could tell you, I suppose.

Q. Will you tell us?—A. I might figure it up.

Q. Will you tell us what money you made in 1871? Can you recollect?—A. I could not exactly tell you.

Q. In 1872? If you can't, answer yes or no.—A. What do you mean? Salt fish?

Q. What money did you make in 1872?—A. I made about \$500 I think.

Q. That is fresh and salt?—A. Yes.

Q. For the season?—A. Yes.

Q. All the other hands made the same?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember what you made in 1873?—A. No; I could not exactly tell you.

Q. Do you remember what you made in 1874?—A. No.

Q. In 1875?—A. I can't exactly tell you what I made.

Q. In 1876?—A. I didn't keep any run of it like that.

Q. You can't tell about 1876?—A. No; I didn't keep any run of it.

Q. I suppose you can't say as to this year because it is not ended yet?—A. Probably if I figured it up I could tell you what I made.

Q. Now, you say you have been four years into Newfoundland for bait. During the last two years you have been master and during the first two years you were a hand on board?—A. Yes.

Q. That is all?—A. Yes; that is all into St. John's.

Q. Were you into any other port—Long Harbor?—A. No; I was in Cape Breton.

Q. You were in St. John's once, that is, on the Newfoundland coast, in 1876?—A. Yes.

Q. This year you have been in four times. Where have you been?—A. I have been to Long Harbor, and I have been to Fortune Bay twice, and I have been to Bay Bulls once, and St. John's once. Well, I have been in several places up and down the shore looking for bait, but did not get any.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Where did you usually fish on the Grand Banks?—A. Well, I could not tell you the certain spot, because we fished all over it pretty much.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Can't you tell the latitude and longitude of the place you fished?—A. We did not fish in any one certain spot.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Is it not a long way to go from the Bank to Fortune Bay? Are there not places along here (pointing to the coast from Cape Francis to Cape Race) where you can get bait?—A. We might not find any bait there. We go all over looking for it.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. You go to Fortune Bay in the spring before you go to the Bank at all?—A. No.

Q. Do you mean to say you go into Fortune Bay from the Banks and then go out again?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, when you go into Fortune Bay is it on the Grand Banks you are fishing or to the southward?—A. It is on the Grand Bank.

Q. Are you on the Grand Banks or on St. Peter's and Green Banks when you go to Fortune Bay for bait?—A. We are on the Grand Bank.

Q. Always?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, you say you can't tell upon what part of the Grand Banks you fished?—A. No; you probably set trawls in the evening, and if you find no fish you are under sail next morning. You are under sail nearly every day. We were under sail nearly every day last trip. We fish in 44 latitude one day, and next time we set trawls it will be in 44½, next time in 45.

Q. You fish at different places?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you keep a log-book?—A. Yes.

Q. On board ship?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you that here now?—A. No.

Q. Could you tell the date you left fishing at the Grand Banks to go into Saint John's for bait this year?—A. I could not exactly say.

Q. Can't you remember?—A. I don't know if I could exactly tell you now.

Q. Do you remember the date you got back after being in there?—A. We got back the 24th of last month.

Q. Well, now, you left Saint John's the 24th September?—A. We got back the 24th.

Q. Well, now, do you remember what time you left Saint John's?—A. I left on the 22d September.

Q. How long were you in Saint John's?—A. Well, I have been—

Q. On that occasion I mean. How long had you been there?—A. I had been there two days.

Q. Well, how long had you been coming from the Banks into Saint John's?—A. About 36 hours.

Q. That altogether makes five and a half days. Then it takes you five and a half days?—A. Yes; and then I have been three weeks looking for bait.

Q. But I am speaking of this occasion?—A. Yes.

Q. You were about five and a half days?—A. Yes.

Q. You are clear upon that point?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, how came you to swear just now that the shortest time you were in there was seven days?—A. Well, I didn't say. I said I have been over three weeks.

Q. You said you were thirty-six hours coming in from the Banks?—A. I said I was thirty-six hours coming in from the Banks. I didn't go directly to Saint John's then. But then when I got my bait, when I left I got it at Saint John's; it was salt bait. I was looking for fresh bait and could not get it. We gave up hopes of getting fresh bait, and then went to Saint John's and got salt bait.

Q. Then you were not correct when you said you were thirty-six hours?—A. Well, you didn't ask me. You asked me in a different way. You asked me how long I was coming in from the Banks, and I told you. But I was longer than that looking for bait, because I didn't go directly to Saint John's when I came looking for bait. When I gave up every other place, I came to Saint John's.

Q. You were thirty-six hours going to St. John's, and you were two days in St. John's?—A. I was not at that time.

Q. I was only speaking of one voyage and kept you to one particular trip. You told me you were clear it took five and a half days for the trip.—A. I didn't say such a word, that it took me five and a half on this trip.

Q. Do I understand you now that you were not correct in making the statement that it took thirty-six hours to go into St. John's and that you remained in St. John's two days and took two days to go out again?—A. I left the bank and run for St. John's and I have been in there and got through my business before I left St. John's, and went all round the coast looking for fresh bait.

Q. What business had you in St. John's?—A. We wanted to find out where we could get bait.

Q. Had you any other business?—A. Not anything large.

Q. How long did you remain in St. John's to find out where you could get bait?—A. We came in on Saturday evening about dark and lay there until Monday morning.

Q. Then where did you go to?—A. To a place called Portugal Cove.

Q. When do you go there?—A. We were there a night or so. We got there some time about four o'clock and were there until next morning.

Q. You didn't get bait there?—A. No.

Q. Where then did you go?—A. Up the shore.

Q. To what place?—A. Broad Cove.

Q. Did you get bait there?—A. No.

Q. How long did you remain there?—A. We went there in the morning and were away next evening.

Q. Where then?—A. To the northward, to Bonavista.

Q. Did you get bait there?—A. No.

Q. How long did you remain there?—A. Two days.

Q. Where did you go from there?—A. To Heart's Content.

Q. Did you get bait there?—A. No; we staid there three days.

Q. Where did you go then?—A. We worked back to St. John's. We worked on shore down along, trying different places. We tried the coves inside and along shore.

Q. When did you get back to St. John's?—A. The day of the week? I could not exactly tell you.

Q. How long did you remain there then?—A. Two days.

Q. Did you get fresh bait there?—A. No; we took salt bait.

Q. What detained you that long getting salt bait?—A. Well, the first evening we were in there they caught a few squid, a very few, and we remained there until next morning to see whether they would catch, thinking probably they might strike in and we could get some. Next morning they didn't get any, so we took salt squid, and the wind was kind of ahead, so we didn't go out until next day.

Q. How long did it take you around all this coasting voyage?—A. It was about three weeks from the time we left until we got back.

Q. Can you tell me when you left the Banks?—A. No.

Q. Now, don't you know a great number of harbors and places where you could get bait between St. John's and Portugal Cove?—A. There have been vessels in every harbor from St. Peter's to St. John's and didn't get any.

Q. American vessels have been in every harbor from St. Peter's to St. John's and haven't got any bait?—A. Not any fresh bait. They were looking for fresh bait. I don't know but some of them might have got it.

Q. What time during this year did those vessels go into all those harbors between St. Peter's and St. John's and get no bait?—A. From the middle of last month.

Q. From the middle of September to the first of this month—during fifteen days?—A. Well, some there might be from the first of the month; there might be some there.

Q. That is American vessels in all the ports between St. Peter's and St. John's and got no bait? Were you in any of those ports yourself?—A. No; I have been there and to the northward of St. John's.

Q. How do you know they were there?—A. I have seen vessels going along there.

Q. How many have you seen?—A. Five or six.

Q. Can you name one?—A. There was one captain said he had been up and down all along the shore, from St. Peter's up and down, and didn't get any fresh bait.

Q. Where did you fall in with him?—A. In St. John's.

Q. Was that the first time or the last?—A. The last time.

Q. Did he take fresh bait or salt?—A. I was not in his company all the time. I could not correctly tell you whether he got salt or fresh bait.

Q. Now, you have detailed your expedition in for bait this year; you were in also last year?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you tell me the time you left the fishing ground last year to go in for bait?—A. No; I can tell you the time I was gone.

Q. Can you tell me the port to which you went?—A. St. John's.

Q. Direct from the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. You can't tell the time you left the Banks?—A. No.

Q. How long did it take you to go in?—A. About 38 hours, I suppose.

Q. Did you get bait in St. John's?—A. Yes.

Q. Fresh?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you return immediately to the fishing ground?—A. Yes.

Q. How long were you in St. John's?—A. I was there five days.

Q. You remained in St. John's five days on that occasion last year?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you detained by no other cause than the procuring of bait?—A. That is all.

Q. Was there no bait there to be had?—A. There was, but they could not catch enough at once, and we had to wait for the morning and evening catch, and buy what they would bring aboard.

Q. Did you go in the harbor or remain in Freshwater Bay?—A. The vessel remained in Freshwater Bay.

Q. Why did she remain there?—A. That is where they catch the bait.

Q. You did not go into St. John's; was it not to avoid paying the light-dues?—A. No; it was not.

Q. State whether it was that or not.—A. No; I don't know if it was that; it was not that.

Q. Did you pay light-dues?—A. No.

Q. How long did it take you to get out to the fishing grounds at the Banks?—A. I could not say.

Q. Cannot you remember how long—38 hours?—A. It took nine days from the day we left to when we got back.

Q. Did you make any other trip to Newfoundland for bait last year?—A. Not from the Banks. We took bait from Cape Breton when going there.

Q. The only two voyages you made in for bait since you have been master are the one just referred to, when you went round to Bonavista and got salt bait, and one in 1876, when you anchored in Freshwater Bay, outside of St. John's, and got bait and came out again?—A. Yes.

Q. Those were the only two trips you went in for fresh bait, excepting in Fortune Bay?—A. That is all.

Q. Fresh bait, I believe, is very superior to salt bait for taking fish?—A. If it was on the Bank, it is; but when you have to spend half your time looking for it, it is not.

Q. Then, if you had plenty of fresh bait you would consider it far superior to salt bait for catching fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever get any ice in St. John's?—A. No.

Q. Where did you get your ice?—A. Which time?

Q. At any time.—A. We got ice in St. John's the last trip.

Q. You got ice in St. John's last year?—A. Yes.

Q. Had you no other business in St. John's besides that of getting bait?—A. No other business.

Q. Did not your men jig bait themselves?—A. No.

Q. Have you ever jigged bait there either when captain or hand?—A. I never jigged any bait in St. John's.

Q. Did any of your crew?—A. No; nor any of my crew.

Q. Have any of your crew jigged squid in any other port than St. John's?—A. No; not that I know of. While they were with me I never saw them jig for squid.

Q. You always employed others to get bait?—A. They come alongside, and we buy bait from them.

Q. You employ them to catch bait for you?—A. They come alongside and they catch it.

Q. Do they come alongside with squid to sell, or do they come and ask what quantity of bait you want, and you tell them and they go and catch it?—A. They come alongside with bait. They never come near except with bait.

Q. They never come to ask whether you want bait or not?—A. No.

Q. How often has that occurred that they have come alongside with bait?—A. That is with squid.

Q. How often has it occurred that they have come alongside with squid?—A. All the times I have ever been there for bait, they have come alongside, and have had the bait—squid—in their boats.

Q. You got salt bait that year?—A. Salt squid.

Q. Last year you got fresh squid?—A. Fresh bait.

Q. And you were five days in St. John's before you got it?—A. Yes; waiting till they caught it.

Q. Do you mean to say that they did not come on board to know what quantity of bait you wanted?—A. They came on board the first morning I was there and had bait in their boats.

Q. And then you told them what quantity of fish you wanted, and they went and caught it?—A. They had bait to sell and I bought what they had.

Q. Then you told them what quantity you wanted, and they went and caught it?—A. Yes. At last they had more than I wanted.

Q. Bait was very abundant?—A. I did not want all the bait they had caught, the last morning I was there.

Q. That is the only time you got fresh squid from the people there?—A. Yes; the last time last year.

Q. You got it the year before?—A. No.

Q. That was the only time you got fresh squid?—A. I got no fresh squid that trip, but on the first trip.

Q. I thought you were in for bait only once that year?—A. I told you I was in St. John's four times this year.

Q. You told me you were in Fortune Bay.—A. Twice in Fortune Bay and twice on the coast.

Q. You have been more than once in St. John's this year?—A. Once in what I call St. John's.

Q. Have you been at any other time on the coast besides at Fortune Bay?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go?—A. In Bay of Bulls.

Q. When were you in Bay of Bulls?—A. I went in there the last day of July.

Q. When did you leave the Banks to go there?—A. I was right from home.

Q. You went from home to the Bay of Bulls?—A. Yes.

Q. And got bait there, in how long a time?—A. They caught it the same day we went in there.

Q. And you proceeded at once to the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. How long was it before you got on the fishing grounds?—A. About two days.

Q. You got the bait the first day you went in?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you were only three days altogether in getting bait and proceeding to the Banks?—A. Yes; I had come from home then.

Q. How do you reconcile that with the statement you made that the shortest time in which you got bait was nine days?—A. There is a difference. I was asked the time it took from leaving the Banks to get back. I did not go there from the Banks.

Q. You draw a distinction between leaving home and going to Newfoundland to get bait and going from the Banks there for bait?—A. I was asked what time was taken between leaving the Banks to get bait and getting back again. I don't know but that I was three weeks from the time I left home till I got there.

Q. In 1875 you were a hand. Do you recollect what time you left the Banks to go into the coast for bait?—A. No; I do not.

Q. Do you remember how often you went in?—A. Once, I think.

Q. Do you recollect to what place you went?—A. To Fortune Bay.

Q. That was the only part of the coast to which you went for bait in 1875, and you went there but once?—A. That is all.

Q. In 1874, how often were you on the coast of Newfoundland for bait?—A. Once, I think.

Q. Those were the two years you were a hand?—A. Yes.

Q. How was it you said you were 10 or 12 times into that coast for bait before you were master, and six times since you were master?—A. I did not mean in Newfoundland getting bait. I was asked how often I took fresh bait.

Q. It is, then, not correct as you have stated, that you were into Newfoundland for bait ten or twelve times before you were master. Did you state that or not?—A. I don't think I did—that I went into Newfoundland that number of times for bait.

Q. As a matter of fact, you were there once in 1874, once in 1875, once in 1876, and once this year. Is that correct?—A. I have been twice this year; once in 1876.

Q. Then you were there once in 1874, once in 1875, once in 1876, and twice this year?—A. Yes.

Q. That makes five times you went on the coast of Newfoundland for bait?—A. Five times altogether. I have been four times this year, twice for squid and twice for herring.

Q. You were there once in 1874, once in 1875, once in 1876, and four times in 1877. Is that a fact?—A. That is the fact.

Q. Any other statement you may have made in regard to the times you have been in for bait is incorrect?—A. I was asked how often I had been in for fresh bait.

Q. You were asked how often you had been into Newfoundland for fresh bait?—A. I did not understand that it was only Newfoundland.

Q. You were there once in 1874, once in 1875, once in 1876, and four times in 1877. That is a correct statement?—A. Yes; that is a correct statement.

Q. Any other statement you made as to the number of times you went into Newfoundland for bait is incorrect?—A. Yes.

No. 31.

STEPHEN J. MARTIN recalled on behalf of the Government of the United States.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. I have learned since you were on the stand, what I did not know before, that you have been engaged in halibut fishing?—Answer. Yes.

Q. During the time you were in the Bloomer, were you halibut fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you fish?—A. Part of the time at the George's, but the biggest part of the time, seven years out of the ten or eleven years, we fished in different parts of the Bay of Fundy, from Yarmouth to Seal Island.

Q. That includes all the region about, I suppose. You have heard something about Cape Sable Island?—A. Yes.

Q. During time you were fishing in that region, were you fishing deep sea or inshore?—A. In deep water; never within fifteen miles of the shore. Sometimes we sighted Yarmouth light or Seal Island light.

Q. Did you ever see any other persons fishing as close inshore as three miles?—A. We were not near enough to see.

Q. Did you go in at all?—A. Twice; once into Bryer Island after herring, and once into Yarmouth after alewives.

Q. When you were at Bryer Island, did you find any other fishermen there?—A. Nobody but ourselves.

Q. Did you speak with any, either going or coming?—A. No.

Q. Did you get your bait at home?—A. We went to Bryer Island to try and get some bait, but did not get any. We got 400 or 500 herrings and came right away.

Q. Did you take bait from home?—A. Always.

Q. Is it the practice among the American fishermen to procure the bait from home?—A. Yes; when going only that short distance, they always take their bait from home.

Q. As far as your information extends, you know nothing of any halibut which is not taken outside in deep water?—A. No.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. What was the last year you fished?—A. 1861.

Q. Where did you fish?—A. We caught one trip about 15 miles west of Yarmouth light. We could see the light on a clear night.

Q. From Yarmouth and to the west?—A. Yes; and towards Seal Island.

Q. Yarmouth was farthest you went west on that coast?—A. Yes; unless we went up to Bryer Island.

Q. You fished altogether west of Yarmouth?—A. Yes.

Q. You only fished at Yarmouth and west of Yarmouth?—A. Sometimes we would go as far off as Seal Island and Brown's Bank. We have been eastward on that coast.

Q. You never tried inshore fishing?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever land at Sable Island?—A. Never in my life.

Q. You never fished there in sixteen years?—A. No.

Q. You never fished for halibut lately?—A. Not since 1861.

Q. You stated, when you were here before, that halibut was a deep-sea fish?—A. We sometimes fished in 75 or 80 fathoms.

Q. You did not make anything out of halibut fishing?—A. No.

Q. Lately there has been a good deal of money made out of halibut fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Not in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Q. Do you know anything about halibut fishing in the gulf?—A. No.

Q. You never heard of it?—A. No.

Q. Not off Anticosti?—A. Not to my knowledge. I have heard tell of it.

Q. You never heard of any halibut fishing except as deep-sea fishing?—A. I have heard of a few halibut being caught down at Miquelon and St. Pierre.

Q. Sixteen years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. Since that you have heard nothing about it?—A. No; I never paid much attention to it. I might have heard about it, but never gave it any attention.

Q. Do you know that it had lately been discovered that it was a shore-fishery?—A. No.

Q. You never fished any since 1860?—A. No.

No. 33.

EZRA TURNER, of Isle of Haut, Deer Isle, State of Maine, fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You live on the south part of Deer Isle, on Penobscot Bay, and in the State of Maine?—Answer. Yes.

Q. And the name of your place of residence is Isle of Haut?—A. Yes.

Q. How far is that from Mount Desert?—A. Twenty miles.

Q. How old are you?—A. I was 64, 12th of last March.

Q. When were you first in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence?—A. About 1829.

Q. What for?—A. I was for codfish that trip.

Q. When were you first in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence after mackerel?—A. In 1831.

Q. How many years have you been fishing in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence for mackerel?—A. I have been from that time till 1865.

Q. Thirty-five years?—A. Yes.

Q. When were you first skipper?—A. In 1831.

Q. Of what schooner?—A. The Porpoise.

Q. You were pretty young when you were first skipper?—A. There were younger skippers than I was.

Q. How old were you?—A. About nineteen.

Q. How many years were you in the Porpoise?—A. I was in her 17 years.

Q. In succession?—A. Yes.

Q. Where was she from?—A. She belonged to the town of Deer Isle, when Isle of Haute and Deer Isle were one.

Q. She belonged to the place where you live?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did she pack out?—A. The first three years I fitted and packed at Isle of Haute, and the next fourteen years I fitted and packed in Gloucester.

Q. State to the Commission what was your principal fishing-ground for mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.—A. I have been all over it, but the principal ground is Banks Bradley and Orphan and the Magdalen Islands. Late in the fall down at Margaree there is considerable hovering about there among the fleet.

Q. Have you caught mackerel within three miles of the shore anywhere, and, if so, name all the places, and tell the Commission all you know about the extent of the fishing at those places?—A. I got 90 barrels one day. I did not judge myself anything more than three miles out, and I don't think I was. I think I was within three miles of the land; when we hove to after we had done fishing, we were six or seven miles off. The wind was right off land.

Q. Where was that?—A. At Margaree. Aside of that, I don't recollect getting a dozen barrels of mackerel at any place inshore round the whole bay.

Q. In one day, do you mean, or altogether?—A. In any one time. I might have picked up fifty barrels, aside of these wash-barrels, inside of the line all round the bay.

Q. So far as you have observed fishing within three miles of the shore, where is the most of it done in the gulf?—A. At Margaree Island, the most I have seen done. It is the only place there is any fish inshore that I know of.

Q. Why is that? Explain.—A. When the fish come down out of the bay in the fall we calculate that those which go through the Gut of Canso strike Margaree, unless the wind blows from the south and then they go round Cape North. They strike down to Margaree. Sometimes we can get them half way across to East Point, and afterwards two-thirds of the way from there towards Margaree, and if there is a heavy north wind it drives them near the shore. I never saw them caught inside of one mile or two miles, for the land there is very high, and one mile does not look much distance where the land is so high.

Q. When you speak of fishing off Margaree do you know if there is any fishing between the island and mainland there?—A. I never saw a mackerel caught there, but I don't know that it has not been done.

Q. When you measure distances do you measure them from the mainland or the island?—A. From the island.

Q. Then you mean inshore of the island?—A. Yes. I consider the island land.

Q. Have you ever fished off Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes. I have fished all round the east side wherever anybody fished.

Q. Did you fish within three miles of the shore there?—A. No. It is a rare thing that ever you get mackerel within the three miles. When they come within three miles they rise in schools, and we never calculate to do much out of them, but from four to six or seven miles off is the common fishing ground there.

Q. Did you ever go to Seven Islands in the gulf?—A. Yes, I have been there three times. I never got 20 barrels of mackerel.

Q. How near inshore did you try there?—A. I tried close in there and I did not find any. They used to catch them broad off and then the story was that some vessels caught them close in. Some of the English boats told me they had done well close in to St. Anne.

Q. St. Anne is on the other side of the river?—A. It is on the south side, right across.

Q. Did you ever try seining for mackerel in Bay St. Lawrence?—A. Yes. I took a seine once and went up to Seven Islands, and from there down through the Straits to Anticosti, down by Mingan, up through the inside of Mecatina, to St. Augustine and Dog Island, and from there to Old Fort. I was ordered to go and stop there.

Q. Where is Old Fort?—A. It is on the Labrador coast.

Q. What success had you in seining?—A. I never got a scale. I went from there to Five Islands, Newfoundland, Bonne Bay, and over to the

Magdalen Islands, and got there the first of September, and landed my seines and boats without one scale.

Q. What year was that?—A. I cannot tell that. It was when I was in the Blondel.

Q. Was it 10, 15, or 20 years ago?—A. It was 15 years ago.

Q. That season after first September did you try catching mackerel in the usual way, with hook and line?—A. Yes; all I got.

Q. How many did you get?—A. 270 barrels.

Q. Where?—A. At the Magdalen Islands and broad off New London and about 30 or 40 barrels southeast of East Point.

Q. What was the last year you fished in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. I think it was 1865.

Q. You came from home here on a request by letter or telegram. Did you bring any books or memoranda with you?—A. No.

Q. You have not any means of fixing dates?—A. No. I did not know for what I was wanted, or what you were going to do with me.

Q. Do you recollect being in the Gulf of St. Lawrence once when there was a cutter there, and the limits within which you were to fish were pointed out?—A. I do, well.

Q. Tell me what the cutter was?—A. I cannot tell her name, because there was none on her, but I heard the name of her. The captain was Captain Daly.

Q. Where did she come from?—A. From Halifax. He sent for me to come on board.

Q. I should like to fix the time as nearly as possible. You hardly remember the year?—A. I cannot; I was in Highland Lass that year, I am pretty sure.

Q. Do you remember whether it was before the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. It must have been.

Q. The Reciprocity Treaty began in 1854; then it must have been twenty-odd years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. Describe what sort of a cutter it was, where it came from, where you saw it, and tell the whole story.—A. He gave a general invitation to all American skippers to come on board and see where their limits to fish were. There were 30 or 40 sail of vessels round there, but they all cleared out, except one or two, as soon as he came in.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Where did that occur?—A. In Port Hood.

WITNESS (to Mr. Foster). I staid there. The captain sent his boat down alongside a vessel which was there (I forget the name) and told the skipper he wanted him to come on board. He went to another one, and then came round to me and said, "The captain wants you to go on board." I went on board. The captain told me what his orders were from Halifax, and he showed me his marks on the chart. I well recollect three marks. One was from Margaree to Cape St. George, and then a straight line from East Point to Cape St. George, and then another straight line from East Point to North Cape. The captain said, "If you come within three miles of these lines, fishing or attempting to fish, I will consider you a prize."

Q. That is to say, you were excluded from three miles drawn from point to point across the Bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes. He made those lines from the shore marks.

Q. I want to ask you generally whether you regard the Magdalen Islands as a safe fishing-ground?—A. Yes; as safe as any place in the bay.

Q. It is rather boisterous there when there is a wind?—A. Where is it not?

Q. How could you protect yourself?—A. There is no wind, but you can make a lee under the Islands, because you can go all round them.

Q. How about the north shore of Prince Edward Island?—A. We consider it a very bad place.

Q. Why?—A. You are embayed, and the tide sets in there so from the easterly that it is almost impossible to beat out. When the wind has blown two hours the sea is so sharp a vessel can do nothing.

Q. Do you regard that portion of the mackerel fishery which lies within three miles of the shore in the Gulf of St. Lawrence as important and valuable to American fishermen?—A. There is a very small part of the mackerel caught within three miles of the land there or anywhere or at the Magdalen Islands, that I know of, and I have always fished with all the fleet and vessels there, although at times I have seen good fishing at Margaree. Sometimes at Margaree the vessels fish within three miles of the land. That is all the important inshore fishing I know of in the whole bay.

Q. In regard to the herring fishery at Grand Manan, have you been in that neighborhood after herring?—A. Yes, I suppose I was the man who introduced that business.

Q. How many years ago was that?—A. That is 25 years ago, I guess.

Q. Did you go there to catch herring or to buy them?—A. That is the way all our vessels do; they go and buy them from the inhabitants there who fish the herring and freeze them.

Q. Do you know of any herring being caught by American fishing-vessels in British waters about Grand Manan?—A. No; I never knew any American vessel go there to fish for them. I have known the inhabitants there to charter American vessels and the skipper, and to give the vessel such a part and the skipper such a part—say they would give them two shares. The vessel would lie in the harbor and they would fish the herring, freeze them, and sell them. If there were four parties they would reckon one share for the vessel, one share for the captain, which with the others would make six shares. They several times wanted to charter me to come down in the winter.

Q. Have you ever seen American vessels there with herring nets?—A. I never did. Our nets and our fishermen cannot compete with Nova Scotia fishermen for herring.

Q. Why not?—A. Their nets are finer and they understand the hanging of them better. I have sold nets there and the people have taken them and seamed them over, and the nets would do as well again as they did when I had them. There is no American I ever knew or heard of who went there to catch herring.

Q. When were you there last?—A. I was down there last year, last winter. I only stopped a little while.

Q. You have now been speaking of the frozen herring?—A. Yes; they are frozen herring.

Q. Have you ever known any American vessels to fish for herring to salt or smoke in that vicinity?—A. No; not there.

Q. Eastport and Campobello are close to each other?—A. Yes.

Q. And the line between the two countries, Campobello being British and Eastport American, is the center of the channel, is it not?—A. Yes.

Q. Which has the most inhabitants, Eastport or Campobello?—A. If you take the whole of Campobello there is not much difference, but Eastport is the more thickly peopled. There are three villages in Campobello. The people told me they had no trouble over the fishing, and

I talked with them particularly about it. They say when the pollock are on our side their boats are here, and when on their side our boats are there, so they never have any trouble about the fishing-grounds.

Q. Do you know of any fishing done in boats there except pollock-fishing?—A. No.

Q. What kind of fish for mercantile purpose is pollock; is it a valuable or a cheap fish?—A. It is a cheap fish. Not so valuable as cod.

Q. What do they sell for per pound?—A. They go from \$1.25 to \$3 per quintal.

Q. Within the last few years?—A. Yes. They make a good deal of oil; they are well livered.

Q. And that pollock fishery, as you understood, is common to the boats of the two places?—A. That is what they told me when I saw the boats there together.

Q. They make a reciprocity treaty for themselves?—A. That is as I understood it. At Eastport the people told me that if herring were at Grand Manan they would go over, and if they were on their side the people of Grand Manan would come over and fish in West Bay. They never had any trouble.

Q. Is your information about the State of Maine sufficiently extensive to enable you to state whether the fisheries of Maine, cod and mackerel particularly, have been increasing or decreasing, say for the last ten years?—A. I should say they have been decreasing.

Q. Explain.—A. The town I live in once had twenty sail of vessels over 50 tons; now it has not got one.

Q. What did these vessels do?—A. Fished for codfish and mackerel.

Q. Did the same vessels do one business one part of the year and the other business the other part?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you include the whole of Deer Isle in that or merely your town?—A. I can tell you for the whole of Deer Isle. There used to be fishing firms there that owned and fitted out vessels. There were three firms at Burnt Cove, Deer Isle. There were two firms at Green's Landing, Charles Eden and S. Green. The Warrens had twenty sail of vessels. Now there is not one solitary fishing-stand in the whole town of Deer Isle, and no one fishes for pollock or mackerel, unless it be the two Webbs. The Webbs have three vessels left. The Warrens have one or two vessels left. Charles Eaton has not a vessel. There is a not a fleet or a barrel in Burnt Cove.

Q. Take other towns on the coast which you know of in the vicinity of Booth Bay?—A. I am not so well posted in regard to Booth Bay of late years. A new firm from Cape Cod has gone there, and they say is starting business there. I know the fishing business went down there greatly. McClentick, one of the principal fish-dealers, told me that it was about played out with them.

Q. What is the Cape Cod firm fishing for?—A. They are fishing for everything, I believe. They fit out vessels, and buy fish, herring and mackerel.

Q. Give me the name of the firm.—A. I cannot remember it.

Q. Are there any other towns you recollect about?—A. Yes; there is the town of Vinalhaven. There used to be 50 sail of vessels there, and it was one of the greatest places for codfish-making in the State. Now there is not one vessel goes out of the harbor where there used to be a fleet. There are four or five vessels belong to the island and scattered all round. I believe George Hopkins is the only one in that town who has made codfish this year.

Q. Do you know anything about Portland?—A. I have not been at

Portland for seven or eight years. But I know about Bucksport and Castine; they have broken up in regard to fishing.

Q. They have stopped the business?—A. All except a few barrels.

Q. What did Castine used to do?—A. Castine used to be the mainstay of all fishing. Everybody went there to fit out, and it used to own a good many Bankers itself, and it used to supply vessels with salt and everything else. Now the salt-stores are all gone and the vessels are all gone. I don't know of one vessel that has gone out of Castine to the Banks this year, and there used to be 70, 80, or 90 sail of Bankers fit out there yearly. There are more Bankers going out of Bucksport than Castine, because there are none from Castine, but nothing to what they used to be.

Q. You remember the old bounty system?—A. I think I do.

Q. What was it, and what was the effect of its withdrawal?—A. It used to cost about nine shillings to the dollar to get it.

Q. How do you mean?—A. They would get an old vessel, and hire a crew to go in her, and the wages and expenses would eat up all the bounty and considerably more.

Q. What do you mean by getting an old vessel?—A. When the bounty was on, anybody who had an old vessel would let a man take her for nothing. If you had an old vessel you would say to me, "I will give you her to use this season if you will give me the bounty." The earning of the bounty would be no expense to you, and if I could make the vessel earn anything I would get it. That is the way bounty catching was carried on where I live.

Q. Would not that increase the number of vessels by keeping old vessels afloat?—A. Yes; vessels which ought to have been dead. That is the way the bounty system was carried on in our locality; but there were vessels which earned the bounty and the bounty helped them.

Q. The bounty was given exclusively on cod-fishing vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Did those old vessels which went cod-fishing, partly induced to do so by the bounty, go after mackerel any part of the year?—A. They used to go after everything.

Q. But not during the four months they were earning their bounty?—A. No.

Q. The rest of the year they went fishing for everything?—A. Yes; they did not go a great distance off.

Q. Was the effect of withdrawing the bounty to diminish the number of vessels and to place old and poor vessels out of employment?—A. Yes; old vessels that were not good for anything.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. A question was asked you whether fishing on the coast of Maine had increased or diminished, and you said it had decreased; and you spoke of the number of vessels. Where did those vessels usually fish at the time to which you referred?—A. Our vessels used to go to Labrador, Brown's Banks, and Western Banks, and all round.

Q. Along the whole coast?—A. Yes.

Q. And to the Grand Banks?—A. Some, but very few; I went to the Grand Banks in one vessel.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Did your vessels come to the gulf for mackerel?—A. No; not the old bounty catchers.

By Mr. Weatherbe :

Q. You have named all the places where the vessels fished ?—A. The bounty catchers ? Yes.

Q. You say the effect of the bounty was, as far as your personal acquaintance with it goes, that people had to pay about nine shillings on the dollar to get it ?—A. Yes.

Q. The vessels you spoke of as fishing from the several towns on your coast—where did they fish ? Did you think Sir Alexander Galt's question referred to the bounty vessels ?—A. I thought the bounty catchers were meant. The other vessels fished all over the shores.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg :

Q. Fishing for cod or mackerel ?—A. Both. I mean the firms which have carried on the fishing.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. I had no reference whatever to the bounty system. I want to know where those vessels you spoke of as sailing out of all the ports on your coast usually fished—whether they fished in the gulf or on your own coast ?—A. All over the whole coast.

Q. Everywhere ?—A. Yes ; everywhere in the gulf, about home, and everywhere else. The same as they fish now.

By Mr. Weatherbe :

Q. How far south of your place do they fish ?—A. For spring mackereeling they go as far as Cape May.

Q. Those vessels you speak of went and fished in the same places as the Gloucester fishermen fished ?—A. Exactly.

Q. And they failed of late years ?—A. Yes.

Q. And your coast fishery has failed of late years ?—A. Yes.

Q. Generally ?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know the reason the fishery on your coast has failed ; is it overfishing ?—A. I always thought it cost all the fish were worth to get them, anyhow.

Q. Has your fishery diminished of late years ?—A. It was nothing but unlimited credit that ever kept the fishermen up, I contend.

Q. Then their credit failed ?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that the only reason ?—A. I don't know what other reason there is. That is reason enough, is it not ? They are not able to carry it on. They cannot make it profitable.

Q. Is that the only reason you have to give ?—A. Yes.

Q. That want of credit has stopped them ?—A. The credit has stopped and the business has stopped. There is no profit in the business, they say. That is what has made it stop.

Q. There used to be a profit in the business for years and years ?—A. I don't know about that.

Q. Was there never any capital in the business ?—A. There was some.

Q. For years and years there was capital in the business ? For twenty years ?—A. Yes.

Q. There was capital in the business twenty years, was there ?—A. I don't think I understand you.

Q. Was there capital invested to carry on the fishing business on the coast of Maine ?—A. I suppose there was, or else I don't know how it could be carried on.

Q. For a large number of years ?—A. Yes.

Q. For 20 years ?—A. Yes.

Q. For the last five or six years there has been no capital in it?—A. Yes; for about the last 10 years.

Q. The fishing has been given up?—A. Because they did not find it profitable; there is no profit in it.

Q. How is it they have failed?—A. I cannot tell you more than there is no profit in the business.

Q. For twenty years they found a profit in it?—A. I don't know about that.

Q. Don't you know it?—A. They did not show it; if they made money they would be likely to show it in some way or other.

Q. When there was a large number of fishermen or firms carrying on the fishery business during those 20 years, and had capital invested in it, do you know whether they made money out of it?—A. No; I cannot swear as to what other people made.

Q. For the last 10 years it has not been profitable?—A. I know the business has all gone down.

Q. Are the fish to be caught there now, and were they of late years?—A. They fish on the same ground now as they did then.

Q. Do you know that the fisheries have failed?—A. I don't know. I don't suppose they have.

Q. Do you know anything about it?—A. I know as much as anybody.

Q. How do you know as much as anybody?—A. I am in the way of knowing what vessels bring in at Gloucester, Booth Bay, and Mount Desert.

Q. For twenty years there was capital invested in the fishing business?—A. Yes.

Q. For the last 10 years the capital has been withdrawn?—A. Withdrawn or lost.

Q. Do you know why?—A. No.

Q. Can you tell me, in regard to those 10 years, when the capital was invested, anything about the statistics of the catches and vessels?—A. No.

Q. For the last ten years can you tell anything about the statistics of the catches or vessels?—A. I don't keep books, and I cannot tell you how much a man lost or gained.

Q. Have you been engaged in the fishing business yourself?—A. I have not been engaged in cod fishing, and not much mackereling.

No. 33.

WEDNESDAY, *October 3, 1877.*

The Conference met.

The cross-examination of EZRA TURNER, of Isle of Haut, Deer Isle, State of Maine, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, was resumed.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Question. You are acquainted with a place called Lubec?—Answer. I am.

Q. I will give you the names of some places and ask you if you are acquainted with them: Lubec, Perry, Pembroke, Eastport, Cutler, Machias, Campobello, West Isles, Point Lepreau.—A. I am acquainted with Point Lepreau, Cutler, Eastport, and Lubec. Machias I was never in but once.

Q. How often have you been in the other places?—A. I cannot tell you; a great many.

Q. Recently, how often ?—A. I have not been there these three years.

Q. In any of them ?—A. Yes ; I was in Cutler two years ago.

Q. Since the Washington Treaty came into operation have you been there ?—A. When did that come into operation ? I was in Cutler two years ago ; I have not been in Eastport these three years.

Q. Can you give the Commission any statistics in regard to the fisheries at those places ?—A. I cannot.

Q. Have you taken any pains to obtain and make up statistics ?—A. No ; that is as to the quantity caught, you mean.

Q. Anything at all with regard to the fisheries. Have you made up statistics ?—A. No.

Q. None whatever ?—A. No.

Q. You have spoken of Grand Manan ?—A. Yes.

Q. When were you there last ?—A. Two years ago, I think.

Q. How long were you there ?—A. I was there a fortnight.

Q. How many years were you there previously ?—A. Grand Manan is a place I often go to.

Q. How often have you been there since the Washington Treaty came into force ?—A. I cannot say.

Q. Give the number of times as near as you can ?—A. I was at Grand Manan two years ago, and staid a fortnight. I have been there off and on these fifty years.

Q. Take the last four years, how long have you been there altogether ; one month ?—A. No ; I never staid a month there.

Q. Altogether, during the last four years, have you been there three weeks ?—A. Yes.

Q. During the last ten years how long have you spent there ?—A. I cannot tell.

Q. Can you give any idea ?—A. I cannot remember.

Q. We have gone to a great deal of trouble in regard to getting statistics of Grand Manan fishery and the fishery on that coast ; I want to know what you know about it ?—A. I have been going off and on to Grand Manan, sometimes staying one day and one night, and sometimes three or four days, and once two weeks. That was the longest time I ever stopped on one occasion at Grand Manan.

Q. Generally you only staid one day, and went away the next day ?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you take any opportunity while there to gather any statistics with regard to the fisheries ?—A. I knew how they were doing in fishing.

Q. Do you know how many boats they use ?—A. They use boats and vessels clear round there.

Q. Did you, during the period you were there, make inquiries ; and, if so, to what extent, and from whom ?—A. As to how many boats were there ?

Q. As to statistics about the fisheries ?—A. No.

Q. Anything at all ?—A. No ; I could see for myself.

Q. Did you make any inquiries whatever ?—A. Yes ; about the fishing, from Mr. Caskill, the largest merchant there.

Q. And with regard to the number of boats engaged ?—A. I did not ask the number of boats engaged.

Q. You did make inquiries, from whom ?—A. Mr. Caskill, of Grand Manan.

Q. He resides there now ?—A. He is there now.

Q. On what subject did you make inquiries ?—A. I asked him how the fishing was this year, and he said very bad as yet.

Q. What year was that?—A. Four years ago; it was in July I was there.

Q. Give any other inquiries you made and tell me from whom you made them.—A. I did not make any inquiries about the fishing from anybody else.

Q. You asked no other question but what you have said?—A. Not from him.

Q. From any person else?—A. From John Beales, who left Moose-a-beck and went down there, bought a place, and staid there and fished.

Q. What did you ask him?—A. How he had done in fishing, and he said a good deal better than when he was up at Moose-a-beck. It was fishing in a small boat.

Q. That was all you asked him?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you make any other inquiries?—A. I don't recollect that I did.

Q. Do you know Walter B. McLaughlin, fishery overseer, Grand Manan?—A. I do not.

Q. You have heard of him?—A. I don't think I ever heard that name. How long has he been overseer?

Q. A great many years. He is county councilor, captain of the militia, justice of the peace, and light-house keeper; he was born in Nova Scotia, and resided all his life at Grand Manan, and is 48 years old. You know where the light-house is?—A. Yes, and been to it.

Q. I will read you some extracts from Mr. McLaughlin's testimony. After showing that he had taken up a good deal of time in preparing statistics, he says as follows with regard to American boats:

Q. Well, those boats—those American boats—do they equal or outnumber ours?—A. I think they outnumber ours. I would not say positively. I am convinced in my own mind that they outnumber ours.

Q. Those boats supply the coast of Maine with fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Our people do not compete with them in those markets?—A. Our fish go to Boston, Portland, or New York. Those boats supply their own coast.

Q. How often do they go home with their fish?—A. They fish a week or so and then go home. They have a nice little cabin in the boat and the men sleep in that. As soon as they get a load they go home.

Q. How do they keep their fish?—A. They salt them.

Q. How is it about the fresh fish?—A. Well, when they come for fresh fish in the winter time, of course they have larger boats or vessels.

Q. And the fish that are taken by the Americans in the summer they salt?—A. Certainly, unless they sell them fresh in the American market. It is that case the vessels come supplied with ice. There are a few that run to Machias and other places with fresh fish, the same as they do to Eastport or Lubec; but any that make a business of selling the fish fresh must have an ice-house.

Q. Those American boats that you spoke of all fish within three miles?—A. Yes; I consider that they all fish within three miles—a marine league. Boat-fishing means that.

Q. Now, about how many American vessels fish on the coast during the season?—A. It would be hard to tell that. It has never been my duty to count them.

Q. They come in large numbers and they generally outnumber ours?—A. Yes; our people at Grand Manan fish but little in vessels.

Q. Do these vessels come in fishing within three miles?—A. At a certain time of the year. In winter it is entirely within. The fall and winter fishing is entirely within.

Q. What besides herring are caught in summer?—A. Cod, pollack, and hake.

Q. They catch in boats and vessels both?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, in the spring, are you not visited by the Grand Manan fleet from Gloucester?—A. Yes; they used formerly to come to Grand Manan direct. Generally now they go to Eastport and get the Eastport people to catch bait for them.

Q. When you say "formerly," do you mean after the Treaty of Washington?—A. Yes. They did not come before that much. It is since 1871 that have come principally. They will come down every spring.

Q. And now they come chiefly to Eastport to employ Eastport fishermen, who catch the fish and bring them to them?—A. The big vessels are not fitted out for herring-fishing. They take an Eastport vessel in company with them, and come over and anchor in our

waters. They bring their own fishermen with them, and anchor in our waters, and get their bait there. They sometimes come in the fall for bait.

Q. Where have they gone this year?—A. I think to Campobello, Deer Island, and those places.

Q. Still in British waters?—A. Yes; we have the herring fishery.

Q. How many came down in the spring?—A. To the Grand Manan grounds, I should say forty sail. I would not say positively.

Q. As a practical fisherman, you say about forty sail of them?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you see them come in the fall?—A. Yes; at all times of the year.

Q. Then you believe the amount you have given is an underestimate?—A. I know it must be over half a million dollars; that is, our old \$500,000.

Q. That is within the mark for your own island?—A. Yes.

Q. Of the British catch?—A. Yes; our own Grand Manan people, because sometimes they come over from Campobello and other places, but I have nothing to do with that.

Q. Well, now, is the American catch larger or smaller?—A. I think it is larger.

Q. Have you any doubt?—A. No; because their appliances are so much better than ours, and I think their men outnumber ours.

Q. I suppose they are just as assiduous in using their appliances?—A. Just as much so. One of their vessels will take more haddock in a short time than ours will in a whole year. One of theirs took 150,000 pounds in a week, while all of ours took only 50,000 pounds in the whole year. That was sold fresh.

Do you know anything about that, whether it is true or not true?—A. Some of it is exactly true, and some of it I don't know about. About the Eastport boats outnumbering the Grand Manan boats, I don't know whether that is true or not.

Q. Mr. McLaughlin further said :

Q. On the mainland you say our catch must be half a million, and the American catch is equal to that?—A. Yes; I think so, because they come down in the winter and follow these fine harbors up.

Q. You make for the mainland and islands a million and a half to be the catch of the Americans, and the same for our own people?—A. I think that would be fair.

Q. That is within our waters, within three marine miles?—A. Yes.

Are you able to say anything about that, whether it is correct or not?—A. I have been at Grand Manan all my days. I know but just one place round there where you can get bottom within three miles, I was going to say. That is right between Swallow's Tail and Long Island, where it is not more than three miles from land to land. There is good hooking there, and that is where all the Grand Manan fishermen go for hake, cod, and pollack. I cannot say about the Eastport people, for they are so much connected with the Grand Manan people. The Eastport vessels go there to fish, and the Grand Manan people come and fish in Passamaquoddy Bay. I never heard of any trouble. They told me at Eastport there was no trouble about the fishing in the river. In regard to herring catches, it was Campobello men who chartered Eastport vessels, and they always tried to charter me. They get the vessels to go in and live in, and give the skipper a certain share and the vessel a certain share, and carry their own nets, and catch the fish. I never knew an American carry a net there in my life. I have been there when the men have caught herrings from St. John's to Campobello, along the whole shore. I have been there six years running buying herring, and I never saw an American vessel fishing there in my life, except those chartered in that way. They got a Lubec pinkey there once. Four men at Campobello chartered her. They had no skipper on her then, and they gave a certain share for the use of the vessel. I don't know what the catch was.

Q. I will also read some extracts from the testimony of Mr. James McLean, merchant, Letite Passage, N. B. Do you know Letite Passage?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know Mr. James McLean, merchant, there?—A. I don't know the name. I cannot recollect the name of one man there, though I know a good many by sight.

Q. Mr. McLean said:

Q. You live close to the shore of the bay?—A. Close to the shore.

Q. There are a number of harbors at that part of the coast: in which harbor do you carry on business?—A. We have a store at Letite and another at Black Bay.

Do you recognize him. They are both places in the Bay of Fundy?—A. They are 50 miles apart.

Q. He keeps a store at each place. Are you acquainted with him?—

A. I am not acquainted with him.

Q. Mr. McLean said:

Q. You are acquainted with the fishery from Lepreau to Letite?—A. Yes: very well.

Q. That is along the mainland?—A. Yes.

Q. Among the islands lying along the coast are Campobello, Deer Island, and some minor islands?—A. Yes.

Q. Besides Grand Manan?—A. Yes.

* * * * *

Q. On the mainland, take from Lepreau to Letite, how many vessels and boats are employed by British subjects?—A. From Lepreau to Letite I should think there are between 50 and 60 vessels.

That is what he says with regard to British fishing-vessels. Mr. McLean further says:

Q. Before the treaty of Washington, in 1871, how did you deal with the fish? Did the Americans come in as much after the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty and before they commenced under the Washington Treaty?—A. Not catching herrings.

Q. Did they do so after 1871?—A. Yes.

Q. Tell the Commission how you dealt with the herring before 1871?—A. We dealt with them as we do now. The Americans came down and bought them; if not, we loaded a vessel ourselves and shipped them frozen to New York.

Q. Since the Washington Treaty, the Americans have come down and fished a great deal?—A. Yes.

Q. Are the fishing-grounds in your locality entirely in British waters?—A. Our herring fishery is altogether in British waters—all that I know of; I don't know of any in American waters.

Q. Is that correct?—A. Yes.

Q. Mr. McLean said also:

Q. How many fish in the winter time?—A. In the herring-fishing on our coast in winter there are from 100 to 125 American vessels fishing, small and large.

Is that true?—A. I should think it was, if they call it fishing when Gloucester vessels come down.

Q. Are there that number of American vessels fishing in those waters?—A. I want you to tell me what you call "fishing," whether by money, hook and line, or nets. That many vessels go there to buy herring. If you refer to 125 sail of American vessels, I will grant that number of American vessels go there.

Q. How do you know that?—A. I never counted them, but seeing so large a number, and knowing so many, and that gentleman stating the number to be 125, I don't doubt it.

Q. He does not refer to Gloucester vessels. Is it true or not?—A. I cannot swear to it. He says it is so, and I think it is.

Q. He does not refer to Gloucester vessels?—A. He does not refer to any places.

Q. He says:

Q. That is from Lepreau to Letite?—A. Yes, off Beaver Harbor, Black's Harbor, Black Bay, and Lepreau.

Q. What size are the vessels?—A. They range from 10 up to probably 40 or 50 tons.

Is that correct?—A. No.

Q. Are you able to contradict it?—A. Yes; as regards the vessels I have seen.

Q. Have you any means of knowing?—A. No; except what I saw during the six years I was there.

Q. You have been to those places?—A. Yes.

Q. How often?—A. Six winters running.

Q. Within the last four years, how often?—A. I have not been there the last four years.

Q. Have you been there the last ten years?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you been there the last six years?—A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Not since?—A. I don't think so.

Q. Are you able to speak with regard to the fisheries there during the last six years?—A. No; but I never heard there had been any great change.

Q. Have you endeavored to get any statistics in regard to the fishing on your own coast or any of those coasts?—A. No; I never knew they were wanted.

Q. You never made any inquiries?—A. No.

Q. Then you don't undertake to contradict any of this evidence?—A. I say there never were 125 sail of American vessels of that description buying herring there during the six years I was there or one-fourth of that number.

Q. I am asking in regard to recently?—A. I cannot say what were there last winter.

Q. Mr. McLean said further:

Q. All the rest of the fleet of 150 vessels fish for herring?—A. Yes, of the 100 or 125 vessels.

Q. Will you state to the Commission the process of fishing, what the Americans do when they come down there?—A. They come down in their vessels. They frequent our harbors in blustering weather, and in fine weather they go out in the morning and set their nets.

Is that correct?—A. They never used to do so when I was there.

Q. You are not able to say anything about the fishing there since always the Washington Treaty?—A. That is new fishing to me. They used to stay in the harbors while I was there, and set their nets.

Q.

They have anchors to their nets and large warps, and set a gang of nets, two or four nets to a boat. The nets are allowed to remain out all night and are taken up in the morning, if it is not windy. If it is too windy the vessels remain in harbor, and the nets have to remain in the water until there is a chance to get them taken in. The vessels do not take up the nets; the boats are sent after them, and in blustering weather it is not a very nice job. The herring is taken on board the vessels. Sometimes if there is a large catch the men take the herring to the beach and freeze them; if there is only a small catch they freeze them on deck, but they cannot freeze the fish so well on deck as on shore.

Q. These vessels which receive the herring as soon as frozen are different vessels?—A. Yes. They are outside of the 125 I mentioned.

Q. These are the American vessels which are in the harbors with buyers on board?—A. Chiefly American vessels.

Q. It is much more convenient to land?—A. Yes; with large quantities it is much more convenient to land.

Q. Is it not a very great convenience and privilege to the Americans to be allowed to do so?—A. I should think so; I look upon it as such.

Q. The Americans themselves consider it a privilege to land?—A. I suppose so.

Q. Obviously it is a very great privilege?—A. It looks that way. I know that all our fishermen have to land to freeze the fish, and the Americans follow the same methods. There is no difference between them at all; at least I do not see any difference. They fish in the harbor just in common with our own men.

Has that changed any since you were there?—A. Yes; I never saw an American heave a net while I was there and never heard of one. I never saw a Gloucester vessel have a net.

Q. You are acquainted with the Bay of Passamaquoddy?—A. Yes.

Q. Mr. McLean says:

Q. Was that not at one time a great herring-ground?—A. It was once a splendid fishing-ground.

Is that correct?—A. Yes.

Q. Since the negotiation of the Washington Treaty, and since the Americans have fished there, what has become of it?

Q. Are you able to answer that?—A. The fishing-ground is there yet.

Q. I will read you Mr. McLean's answer:

A. It has been destroyed within the last two years. It is now no good whatever.

You are not able to say anything about that?—A. I did not know there had been any eruption there that had made any alteration in the bay.

Q.

Q. This has been done by American fisherman?—A. Not altogether. The American fishermen helped to do it; a great many Americans were concerned in it, but our fishermen were in it too.

Q. Were your fishermen driven to it, in order to compete with the Americans?—A. They have to do it; they must do it.

Were you aware of the nature of the fishing that went on there?—A. Yes.

Q. Was there any trawling there in your day?—A. No. That is a herring-ground.

Q. Mr. McLean says:

Q. Another mode of fishing—trawling—is practiced with larger fish, such as pollack, haddock, &c. Explain the effect of it?—A. Trawling has been pursued, as I understand it, during the last six or seven years.

A. There was no trawling in Passamaquoddy Bay while I was there; so the people told me. I talked with them about fishing.

Q. When you gave direct evidence I understood you to be giving evidence down to the present time with regard to the value of the British fisheries; you were not doing so? You cannot speak of the fisheries within the last six years?—A. No.

Q. You did not intend to speak of the last six years?—A. No.

Q.

Q. Along the coast of Maine, say from Eastport westward, there lives a large population who fish entirely in our waters?—A. Yes. They come from Lubec, Perry, Pembroke, and Eastport, and along by Cutler, and westward of Lubec, and still farther away than that.

Q. And from Machias?—A. I think so.

Q. They all come and fish in our waters?—A. Yes.

That is since the Washington Treaty?—A. I think a good deal of that is correct. Those boats come over and try in British waters, over at Grand Manan.

Q.

Q. Within three miles of their coast there is no fishing of which you are aware?—A. Yes.

Q. And this is a population that lives by fishing alone?—A. From Eastport and along there they follow fishing for a livelihood, beyond question.

Is that correct?—A. Yes.

Q.

Q. So that a large body of American fishermen gain their whole livelihood in our waters?—A. Yes; those that fish there do.

Q. What would you say is the quantity of herring alone that comes to Eastport in the course of the season—how many millions go to that small town during this period?

Are you able to answer that?—A. I could not.

Q. The witness answered it in this way :

A. I should think, at the least calculation, from seven to ten millions.

A. He means herrings by the count I suppose.

Q. Are there from seven to ten millions ?—A. I cannot say.

Q.

Q. And of all the herring caught by you, more than three-quarters goes to Americans, either for food or bait ?—A. Of frozen herring ? Yes.

Q. And of the \$50,000 or \$60,000 worth that you take, what proportion goes to the Americans ?—A. About one-third.

Q. Where do you sell the rest ?—A. In the Dominion and New Brunswick ; some are shipped to the West Indies.

I suppose you were not acquainted with those matters at all. Have you any knowledge of them ?—A. Yes ; I have. I think that statement is correct.

Q. Are you acquainted with Mr. James Lord, of Deer Island ?—A. I am not acquainted in Deer Island. There are two Deer Islands. I belong to what is called Deer Isle.

Q. How many vessels have Campobello fishermen now ?—A. I cannot tell. A good many of their skippers go out of Gloucester. I don't know how many vessels are owned at Campobello ; I could not give you an idea.

Q. Mr. James Lord is fishing overseer at Deer Island ?—A. Yes.

Q. He said :

Q. Now, is it part of your official duty to ascertain the number of boats and vessels engaged in the fishery there ?—A. It is.

Q. Can you tell me what is the number of schooners or vessels ?—A. There are 28 vessels engaged in the fishery in my district.

Q. Of what tonnage ?—A. The aggregate tonnage is about 700 tons.

Q. How many men are employed there ?—A. I have a memorandum. (Reads.) There were 171 men engaged in the vessels fishing.

Q. How many boats are there ?—A. 234.

Q. Do the Americans fish much on the coast ?—A. Yes ; they fish in common with our fishermen, on the same fishing grounds.

Is that correct ?—A. They do. Eastport fishermen and those people are all one.

Q.

Q. How many vessels have they ?—A. I should think they had full as many as our folks.

A. Should think it is likely that Eastport has.

Q.

Q. Campobello employs about how many vessels and how many boats ?—A. I could not give you exactly the number. I should say it was about equal to West Isles. I should not think there would be much difference.

Are you aware of that ?—A. Eastport, Lubec, and Campobello are all one, and the people live in sight of one another, and get on agreeably about fishing. I talked with them about it when I was at Eastport seeing them.

Q.

Q. Then off Campobello there is about \$180,000 worth taken by our people ?—A. I should say so.

Q. And \$180,000 worth at West Isles ?—A. Yes.

Q. And the Americans take an equal catch in both places ?—A. Yes.

Is that correct ?—A. I should think so.

Q.

Q. All within three miles?—A. Yes: with the exception of one or two vessels from Deer Is and that go outside. The chief catches are inshore.

Is that correct?—A. Yes.

Q.

Q. Well, when I asked you for an estimate of the catch, and you gave me \$120,000, you did not include in that amount the fish that was caught outside?—A. No.

You do not include that either, I presume?—A. No.

Q.

Q. That is about a million?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you any doubt you are underestimating rather than overestimating it?—A. No doubt that is under, if anything.

Q. That is taken by British subjects?—A. Yes.

Q. Then the American fishermen, do they take on these coasts as much every year as the British subjects, or more?—A. I think they do fully as much. I have no doubt. If I were going to say either more or less, I would say more.

A. I don't think that is correct.

Q. Do you know anything about it?—A. Nothing more than that I was there fishing. I have not been there for six years, but I know about it.

Q. What was the quantity when you were there—\$900,000?—A. I can give no kind of estimate.

Q. Would it be \$500,000?—A. I could not give any kind of an estimate.

Q. Would you undertake to say it was not \$500,000?—A. No; I could not say any amount.

Q.

Q. Is there any fish on the American shore at all? Are you aware of any fish within the three-mile limit?—A. There are none worth talking about. None of our fishermen ever visit that coast for the sake of fish.

What do you say?—A. I say that is not true. Before I left home there was a Grand Manan vessel in at Deer Island, the skipper of which wanted me to pilot him down to Isle of Haut not to catch mackerel. I would have done it if I had not had a boat of my own.

Q. You are able to qualify the statement by that instance; are you able to give any other instance?—A. I have known of British vessels being in our waters.

Q. Tell me what vessels they were.—A. I don't know. Grand Manan vessels have no names painted on their sterns.

Q. Then never mind their names. How many were there; did you count them?—A. There have been three which I have been acquainted with.

Q. How long ago was that?—A. Thirty years ago the first one; and she belonged to Brier Island; the last ones were on Sunday last or Sunday previous.

Q. Those are the only ones you can mention at present?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Was it this summer you saw the two vessels?—A. Sunday before last.

Q. The quantity of ten millions of herrings was spoken of. Can you give the Commission an idea of what herring are worth each?—A. They vary in size.

Q. If you take the value of 1,000 or 100 herring?—A. If they averaged one cent they would do very well, I think.

Q. Do they average one cent? How many are there in a barrel, and what is the price of a barrel?—A. I cannot say. I had very hard luck.

I lost \$600 the first cruise, and on the other three or four cruises I hardly got out square. I was very unlucky. If you don't hit the market at Gloucester you get shoved overboard.

Q. That is when they want bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you intend to assent to the statement that all the herring-fishing you know of is in British waters?—A. Not by any means. In winter it is the only place where they catch them. I don't know but that there is as good fishing on our shore, but we never catch them in winter, and never tried; but we do in spring and summer, and now they are doing as well in Portland herring-fishing as was ever done anywhere.

Q. There is herring-fishing all along the United States coast?—A. I rather think there is.

Q. You say you did not mean to say in cross-examination that all the herring-fishing is in British waters. Will you enumerate the places on the United States coast where herring are caught in considerable quantities, and the season of the year when they are caught?—A. I don't know of any place on the whole coast but which, at certain times of the year, has large quantities of herring. At Isle of Haut, for instance, we were getting from 5 to 15 barrels a night in one net when I left there. They were small-sized herring; the nets were one-inch mesh. They sunk the nets and lost some of them. The people had no means of smoking the herring, so they salted them for lobster bait. There are 100 sail vessels which make it a practice to go in the fall to catch herring. They make Portland their headquarters. They strike for Wood Island, and go eastward to Cape Porpoise, and clear along into Boston Bay, and down by the Graves, and they catch more herring than is caught anywhere I know of in British North America.

Q. Did you mean to assent to the statement that American vessels fish for herring in British waters as a fact you know of?—A. Not with nets. They buy herring there. I never knew an American to have a net there, and I never heard of one.

Q. Did you mean to assent to the statement that there were several fishing towns in Maine which gained their whole livelihood by fishing in British waters?—A. I do not know of any such business.

Q. Will you state whether you understand that there are any fishing towns in Maine the inhabitants of which get their living by fishing in British waters?—A. I don't know of one.

Q. Did you mean to say, in answer to Mr. Weatherbe's question, that there were any towns on the coast of Maine the inhabitants of which get their living by fishing in British waters?—A. No; but I do think the people of Eastport and Grand Manan are like one, and fish back and forth.

Q. That is what you stated yesterday?—A. Yes.

Q. You say that the frozen herring business, as far as you know, is carried on in British waters entirely?—A. Yes.

Q. In answer to questions put to you yesterday with regard to the failure of the fisheries of Maine, did you refer to the failure of the fishing business or to the failure of the catch of fish?—A. I meant the fishing business.

Q. How is it as to the catch of fish off the coast of Maine?—A. I cannot say that the catch has materially altered there, although fish are not so plentiful as they used to be. But I don't think that the change in the catch makes so much difference as the price and expense of getting them, for Maine is about bankrupt from end to end in the fishing business.

Q. When the fishing-vessels of your own town and its vicinity, and

the other places you spoke of yesterday, were engaged in fishing, where did they catch their fish? Was it off the shores of the United States or off the coast of the British provinces, or both?—A. From the Grand Banks to Cape Cod, in every place where they now carry it on. They had equally as good vessels as anybody, and went all over the shores.

Q. After what kind of fish?—A. All kinds. They did not go so much for halibut our way as for codfish and mackerel. But it is estimated by the best judges of the fisheries that our State has depreciated 60 per cent., and in a good many places I know it has 100 per cent.

Q. What has depreciated?—A. The fishing business.

By Mr. Weatherbe :

Q. The reason they do not try to fish on the coast of Maine is because the fishing is better up in the Bay of Fundy?—A. They cannot live by fishing, go where they will.

Q. I thought you told Mr. Foster that you did not know but that the fish were there, but you did not try to fish them there?—A. I did not say we tried to fish for them. I say I did not know but what the fishing is very nearly the same as usual.

Q. Your fishermen do not now try to catch fish on the coast of Maine?—A. They try somewhere; it is their business.

Q. I understood you to say they do not try to catch fish on the coast of Maine?—A. I did not say so.

Q. Do they try?—A. Yes; we have plenty of vessels and boats all the time trying to fish on the coast of Maine.

Q. But the whole business, you say, is bankrupt?—A. Pretty much so; pretty much abandoned. There used to be 125 sail of vessels which fitted out from Castine; I don't know of one this year.

No. 34.

SAMUEL T. ROWE, of Gloucester, Mass., fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster :

Question. Your business has been that of a fisherman and skipper of fishing vessels all your life?—Answer. Yes.

Q. How old are you?—A. 55 years.

Q. What was the first year you were in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence fishing for mackerel?—A. I was there in 1845.

Q. You had been in the gulf a good many times before you were captain, had you not?—A. No; only one year; one trip.

Q. When were you first captain?—A. In 1846.

Q. What was the vessel?—A. Champion.

Q. When were you in the gulf next?—A. In 1851.

Q. In what schooner?—A. O'Connell.

Q. Were you in the gulf afterward?—A. Yes.

Q. In what years?—A. 1851, 1852, 1853, and 1855.

Q. You were not there in 1854?—A. No.

Q. As skipper every time?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you there in any other vessels?—A. I was there in the Oconowoc.

Q. What years were you in the gulf in that vessel?—A. 1856, 1857, and 1858; three years.

Q. Then what schooner did go in?—A. I was in the Alferetta in 1859.

Q. How many years did you remain in that vessel?—A. From 1859 until last year.

Q. Were you in the gulf all those years?—A. No.

Q. Do you remember how many years you were in command of that vessel in the gulf?—A. I was in the gulf all but two years, I think, 1870 and 1871. I have not been in the gulf since 1874.—I was skipper of the vessel.

Q. I will take your experience of fishing in the gulf in the Alferetta, beginning in 1859. How large a schooner was she?—A. 55 tons.

Q. New measurement?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1859 what was your catch?—A. 220 barrels.

Q. In 1860 what was it?—A. We got about the same.

Q. In 1861?—A. We got 310 barrels, I think.

Q. 1862?—A. We got 420 or 425 barrels; I could not say to four or five barrels.

Q. 1863?—A. We made two trips, and got 330 barrels each trip.

Q. Take that year when you had 330 barrels each of two trips, and tell the Commission where they were caught.—A. They were mostly caught at the Magdalen Islands. The first trip was all caught at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. And the second trip?—A. The largest part was caught at the Magdalen Islands and between that and Margaree, about half way across, I think.

Q. Were any of the second trip in 1863 caught inshore?—A. No.

Q. In 1864 what was your catch?—A. I think 320 barrels each trip. We made two trips.

Q. For what quantity was your vessel fitted?—A. 330 or 340 barrels.

Q. Those years you got nearly full fares each time?—A. Nearly.

Q. Where were those two trips in 1864 taken?—A. Mostly at the Magdalen Islands; about 50 or 60 barrels were taken at Margaree broad off on the fall trip.

Q. Those taken at Margaree, were they taken inshore or off shore?—A. I should judge five or six miles out, out of the range of the island, between that and Cape Mabou.

Q. In 1865 what did you catch?—A. We made two trips, and caught 240 and 225 barrels.

Q. Where were those taken?—A. Mostly at Magdalen Islands; some few might have been caught somewhere else. We caught some few some years on the fall trip between Cape George and Port Hood, round the Fisherman's Bank, and between the island and Cape George.

Q. In 1866 what did you catch?—A. 300 barrels the first trip and 115 the second.

Q. Where did you take the first trip?—A. At Magdalen Islands.

Q. All of them?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you take the second trip?—A. We got part of them at Magdalen Islands. We caught the trip round in different places; but most of them we got at Magdalen Islands, 70 or 80 barrels.

Q. Were you licensed in 1866?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1867 you were in the gulf again?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you then licensed?—A. Yes; I think so.

Q. How many barrels did you get in 1867?—A. 300 barrels.

Q. Where were they taken?—A. At Magdalen Islands.

Q. Did you fish anywhere else?—A. No; I don't think we did on that trip.

Q. In 1868 were you in the gulf again?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you licensed that year?—A. I don't think we were.

Q. How many barrels did you get?—A. Somewhere about 230 barrels, I think.

Q. Where were those taken?—A. Most of them at Magdalen Islands. That is mostly our fishing-ground, except late in the fall, when we get a few round at other places.

Q. In 1869 were you in the gulf?—A. Yes.

Q. How many did you get then?—A. About 260 barrels, I think.

Q. Where were they taken?—A. We got most of them at Magdalen Islands. Some, I think, we caught between Cape George and Margaree. We got some in some years off Cape Breton, between Cape George and Port Hood, and off Fisherman's Bank. Late in the fall we would go round there, and sometimes pick up a few barrels, thirty or forty, and some vessels less.

Q. In those years were you in the habit of fishing in the Bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. I have been there, but I have fished there very little.

Q. Did you then fish within three miles of the shore?—A. No. The very few times I was there to try, I generally tried from seven to ten miles out. I have not been there for a number of years.

Q. In 1870 were you on the American coast or in the gulf?—A. On the United States coast.

Q. Fishing for mackerel?—A. I think we were cod-fishing in 1870.

Q. You were not in the gulf in 1870 and 1871?—A. No.

Q. Were you in the gulf in 1872?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels did you get?—A. 315, or about that number.

Q. Where were those taken?—A. We got most of them at Magdalen Islands. We caught a few at Margaree, between that and Chetacamp.

Q. Inshore or out?—A. I think we were out four miles.

Q. In 1873 what did you get in the gulf?—A. I think 290 barrels.

Q. How long were you in getting them?—A. We went into the gulf in July and came out somewhere about October 20.

Q. In 1874 were you there again?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you get then?—A. I think we had about 315 barrels that year.

Q. Will you describe that voyage?—A. In 1874 we were there all the season. We went into Canso and landed fifty barrels of mackerel. We afterwards took them on board and carried them home.

Q. How many barrels did you get that year?—A. 315 barrels.

Q. Were those packed barrels?—A. No; sea barrels.

Q. The collector at Port Mulgrave says you made two trips, and got 230 barrels the first trip and 170 the second. That is not so?—A. No; it is not so.

Q. Did you ever give anybody the statement that it was so?—A. No; I never did. I only made one trip in 1874.

Q. Where were your fish taken that year?—A. At the Magdalen Islands.

Q. All of them?—A. Yes.

Q. If I have added up this statement correctly, you have caught in the Gulf of St. Lawrence nearly 5,000 barrels—4,930. You have been up here during 14 seasons, and you got 19 trips; the average of your trips is $259\frac{9}{19}$ barrels, and the average of your seasons, $352\frac{1}{2}$ barrels. Now, I want you to take your last trip in the gulf in 1874, when you obtained 315 sea barrels, as you say, and let me see how profitable that was to you. In the first place, with whom did you fit out?—A. With Rowe & Jordan.

Q. Mr. Rowe, of that firm, is your brother?—A. Yes.

Q. As captain that year in the Alferetta, you had in the first place your own catch as sharesman, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. Who caught the most mackerel on board that year?—A. I did.

Q. You were high-liner, as it is called?—A. Yes.

Q. Has the captain choice of positions?—A. Yes. He has one of the best berths; there are two about alike, and the captain has one of them. He has his choice anyway.

Q. What did your share come to?—A. Somewhere about \$125 or \$130, I think.

Q. Did that include your percentage as captain?—A. No.

Q. What percentage did you have as captain?—A. $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Q. What was your net stock that year?—A. It was in the neighborhood of \$2,300, I suppose.

Q. And on that you had a percentage of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you make anything else out of the voyage than what you have mentioned?—A. No. I owned one-half of the vessel.

Q. Did the vessel make or lose money that year?—A. She lost \$150 for the whole fishing season. We began fishing in April and we knocked off in the latter part of October.

Q. Then you did something else besides fishing for mackerel?—A. Yes. We went cod-fishing in the spring.

Q. How did you do at cod-fishing that year?—A. We did very well.

Q. Did you make or lose on the cod-fishing trip?—A. I do not think that we lost much. In fact, I do not think that we lost anything.

Q. Was the cod-fishing less or more profitable than the mackerel-fishing?—A. I could not tell exactly. I suppose the vessel was about square when we came to the bay.

Q. You were about square on the year's cod-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. And how was it at the end of the year?—A. One hundred and fifty dollars were sunk.

Q. What was your share of the loss?—A. One-half.

Q. Was that making any allowance for interest or depreciation?—A. No.

Q. Was the vessel insured?—A. Yes; but she could not pay her bills within \$150.

Q. You seem to have made quite as good catches of mackerel as the average for any one who has been here so many years?—A. We used to do about as well as the average, I guess.

Q. Have you got rich on it?—A. O, no; I have not got much of anything. I own a house, and that is about all. The vessel has been run about out.

Q. What do you mean by that?—A. She has run until she has sunk what she is worth.

Q. Is the vessel lost?—A. Some years she sunk considerable, and other years she made something.

Q. You are 55 years of age, and you have been fishing ever since you were a boy?—A. I began when I was ten years old, and have been at it steadily since I was 15.

Q. How much are you worth?—A. I have a house worth about \$3,000, I suppose, and that is about all I have. I have no vessel now; that is how well I have done; and there are a good many as badly off as I am.

Q. If you were going to the Gulf of St. Lawrence to fish, should you regard the privilege of fishing within three miles of the shore as important to the success of your voyage?—A. No, I should not; because I have never fished there much. They drive you off there a great deal.

Q. You seem to have had licenses during two years; why did you take them out?—A. Well, they did not cost much, and I thought they

might trouble me and drive me around. They drove us out of a harbor once.

Q. What do you mean by this?—A. They stopped us from going into the harbor. This was a good while ago, and I thought I would take out a license. It did not amount to much, and if I found anything inshore, I then had a right to catch fish there.

Q. The first year you paid 50 cents a ton on 55 tons for your license; what did you pay the second year?—A. I forget; but I think it was \$1 a ton. I won't, however, be certain about it.

Q. Have you ever fished for mackerel on Georges Bank?—A. O, yes.

Q. You have gone there on purpose to fish for mackerel?—A. O, yes; and for a number of years.

Q. Without going into the details of the voyages, will you state whether it is a good fishing ground?—A. It is a good fishing ground. I have got a good many mackerel there.

Q. You have been cod-fishing a good deal, I notice?—A. Yes.

Q. How have you supplied yourself with bait?—A. We always got our bait home. During the first part of the season we would go to Cape Cod and the sound for it. Generally, after the first one or two trips, when the frozen herring were gone, we went over across to Cape Cod, to what is called the Shoals, and procured bait until it came our way, and we then baited during the rest of the year at home.

Q. Have you ever got bait where you were fishing on the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. What kind of bait?—A. Herring.

Q. Have you ever been to Newfoundland for bait?—A. Yes; but not for fresh bait. I went there after frozen herring.

Q. Did you buy or catch the herring?—A. I bought them.

Q. For bait for your own vessel?—A. No; but a cargo. I took them home.

Q. How often did you purchase them?—A. I did so for a few years.

Q. Where did you go for them?—A. To Fortune Bay.

Q. Did you go there prepared to fish for them?—A. No; and I never saw any one who did so, when I went there. It is now a number of years since I was there.

Q. In how many Prince Edward Island harbors have you been?—A. I have been in Georgetown, and Malpeque, and in Cascumpeque once, in 1851. I went there for barrels. The man who fitted us out then had barrels there and he wanted us to go and take them.

Q. Why did you go to Malpeque?—A. To make a harbor. I was never there a great deal.

Q. How many times have you been fishing there?—A. I was about there mostly all one year, I think, and I might have been in there four or five times.

Q. How many times were you in Georgetown?—A. I do not think I was there over two or three times. I was in Georgetown Harbor for the first time, I think, in 1874, save once. I was there in 1856 or 1857, and I do not think that I was there again until 1874.

Q. Are those harbors of such a kind that fishing-vessels in bad weather can easily enter them?—A. No; those which are on the north side of the island are not so.

Q. Why not?—A. Well, it is kind of shoal water about them, and it is generally pretty rough there when the wind is blowing on shore. When the wind is to the westward and off shore, they do well enough, but when the wind is blowing on shore, they are considerably rough.

Q. When the wind is off shore, there is no particular danger to be experienced when entering them?—A. No.

Q. Have you been in the habit of going to Port Hood?—A. Yes; I have been there a number of times.

Q. At what season of the year?—A. Late in the fall, to make a harbor; when we are going to the Magdalen Islands, we are sometimes there for ten days or a week; and in the fall, when we are down around that way, we generally spend the night in there.

Q. When, in the autumn, do you generally get into the vicinity of Port Hood?—A. We never get over there until along about the 10th or the middle of October. Some are there earlier.

Q. Where, on the whole, has been your fishing ground?—A. It has been at the Magdalen Islands. We went to Bank Orphan on our first trip some years.

Q. Have you usually fished in company with the greater part of the Gloucester vessels?—A. Well, yes. A good many vessels fished around the Magdalen Islands. Some days you will only see a few there when a large fleet is there, and some days you will see a good many there.

Q. Why?—A. Because they are all around the islands. The mackerel are found all about them, and the vessels fish all around them.

Q. Have you ever fished in the Bay of Chaleurs?—A. No; I was never there but once, and that was in 1874.

Q. Did you go in to try for mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. What was your luck?—A. We never caught a mackerel.

Q. Did you ever fish off Seven Islands?—A. Yes; once.

Q. When?—A. In 1852, I think.

Q. That was a good many years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you catch any fish there?—A. No; we got nothing there, and we did not stop long.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. What kind of a harbor is Port Hood?—A. Well, it is a middling good harbor, though it is nothing extra.

Q. It is a pretty fair harbor?—A. Yes.

Q. When you were there in the fall, were many of the fleet there?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. I do not know, as I could not exactly say; sometimes 150 vessels and sometimes 60 would be there; but I do not think that I ever saw over 200 vessels there at one time.

Q. There were always from 60 to 200 in that harbor when you were in it?—A. Not always; but this would be the case a good many times late in the fall. I was never there save late in the fall.

Q. When you were then there you would always find in it a fleet more or less large?—A. Yes.

Q. And you think the numbers varied from 60 to 150 and 200?—A. Two hundred were the most I think I ever saw there at once; and a good many of them were English vessels, from Lunenburg and La Have.

Q. These vessels were all engaged in fishing, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. And I believe you were there every fall?—A. I was there almost every fall.

Q. It is one of the fishing-grounds well known to fishermen in the fall?—A. Yes; for those who fish that way; some fish the other way, down to the Magdalen Islands and half-way across between them and Cheticamp; and if the wind is to the eastward, they make Port Hood their harbor, as there is no other harbor in which one can run about there.

Q. The shores of Cape Breton Island, from Port Hood to Cheticamp and Margaree, &c., are well known to all fishermen as good fishing-grounds in the fall?—A. Yes; spells of mackerel are found there.

Q. And as a rule, the fleet go there some little time at any rate?—A. Yes; some of the vessels go that way.

Q. You were accustomed to go there every fall, for a greater or less time?—A. We never fished at Margaree a great deal.

Q. But you were at Port Hood or Cheticamp?—A. Almost every fall. We would be there a week, I suppose.

Q. And off Sydney?—A. No; I was never around Cape North.

Q. But you were around the Cape Breton shore every fall?—A. Yes; our vessels were there late in the fall.

Q. And sometimes you were there for a week, and sometimes for 10 days?—A. Yes.

Q. Were good catches made there at these times?—A. I never saw but one good catch made there and that was taken between Margaree and Cape Mabon.

Q. Is that on Cape Breton?—A. Yes.

Q. Between Margaree Island and the mainland a good catch was made?—A. Yes.

Q. Were many vessels then there?—A. No; there were 25 or 30 sail.

Q. What do you call a good catch as taken there?—A. 60 or 70 barrels.

Q. Apiece?—A. Yes; but all vessels do not catch alike.

Q. Your judgment would be that each of these 25 or 30 vessels caught 60 or 70 barrels?—A. I do not think that all did so. I understood you to ask what I thought a good catch was. Some of them did not get more than 30 barrels.

Q. Do you know what the vessels took at the time?—A. O, yes.

Q. What did they take?—A. One vessel caught 70 barrels, and we got 50.

Q. Would that be the general average?—A. I could not tell. We saw them all catching fish around us, but vessels do not always fish alike. There is a good deal of difference between them. One might catch 100 barrels, and another not one-half that. I have seen this happen often.

Q. You understood that they made good catches?—A. I know that another vessel, my brother's, took 70 barrels.

Q. Have you any doubt as to this being the average for the fleet?—A. I do not think that it was; but I think they all got a large share.

Q. Within what time did you take them?—A. We got them all during one day.

Q. What have you caught there every fall?—A. I have obtained very few there, that fall excepted.

Q. You went there nevertheless?—A. Yes; but we got most of our stock at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Did the fleet also go there?—A. They went somewhere, but I do not know where.

Q. I understand you to state that you do not know where the fleet went?—A. I could not tell. I know that they left the Magdalen Islands, but I could not say whether they went to Margaree or Prince Edward Island.

Q. But they either went to Margaree or Prince Edward Island?—A. Of course; when fishing, vessels go from one place to another, and it is hard to tell where they go.

Q. I heard a witness state—I think it was yesterday—that the mack-

erel strike in on the Cape Breton shore when going down?—A. They generally do so.'

Q. And the vessels follow them?—A. But it is not often that they stop more than a day or two.

Q. Did you take the 50 barrels close inshore?—A. No; we were five or six miles outside of the range of Margaree Island, I should think, from the look of it. We were to the southwest of Margaree Island.

Q. You were between Margaree Island and Mabou?—A. Yes.

Q. When was this?—A. In 1864.

Q. Would you undertake to swear at this length of time what distance you were then from the shore?—A. Well, I think it was what I have told you.

Q. You then had a right to fish inshore?—A. Yes; I think we were about five miles off shore.

Q. Would you swear to this?—A. I could not; we never measured it.

Q. Can you positively state the distance?—A. No; no farther than I have done to the best of my judgment. Generally, a man can tell two miles from five or six.

Q. I have heard witnesses say that they could not tell three miles from five.—A. I do not know about that; but I should think they could.

Q. You think that there is no difficulty in telling the distance from shore?—A. O, yes. One could not tell it exactly, but I think a man ought to tell whether he was three or five miles off.

Q. You think there is no difficulty about it?—A. I should not think so.

Q. Is your memory very accurate?—A. Well, sometimes it is, and sometimes I cannot remember some things.

Q. What did you say you caught in 1874?—A. 315 barrels.

Q. And that only?—A. Yes; and we made one trip that year.

Q. When did you go to the bay?—A. In July.

Q. Is your memory sufficiently clear on that point to state whether it was in June or July?—A. Yes; it was in July, after the 4th; it might have been on the 8th of that month.

Q. You are reported in the return to which Mr. Foster called attention, to have been in the Gut on June 25th?—A. No; that is a mistake or a misstatement.

Q. Where were you September 1st, 1874?—A. I do not know exactly; but I think that about that time we went to Canso.

Q. Can you tell me how many barrels you had on board then?—A. Yes. Well, I think that we had somewhere about 270—260 or 270 barrels.

Q. You cannot remember the number exactly?—A. No; not within 10 or 15 barrels.

Q. You landed a portion of them?—A. Yes; 50 barrels.

Q. Do you know David Murray, collector of customs at the port there?—A. No.

Q. How often have you been in Canso?—A. I was there every year I was in the bay.

Q. And you do not know Mr. Murray?—A. I suppose I may have seen him, but I could not tell him now if I saw him. I suppose I have been in his office.

Q. Do you know the man?—A. I know there is such a man.

Q. Have you ever spoken to him?—A. I could not say that I have, but I have spoken either to him or to his clerk. I have been at his office.

Q. Do you know him?—A. I do not say that I do, but I have seen him or his clerk. I have been at his office.

Q. What did you go there for?—A. To get a permit to land mackerel.

Q. Were you accustomed to tell him what your catch was?—A. Yes, sometimes; when he asked me I used to tell him.

Q. Was he accustomed to ask you about it?—A. I do not know that he was.

Q. You gave voluntary information on the subject?—A. No; I did not tell without being asked.

Q. If he did not ask you and if you did not give him voluntary information, how is it you say you were accustomed to state what your catch was?—A. I told him it when he asked me about it, but I could not swear that he asked me about it.

Q. Do you mean at any special time? Don't quibble about it.—A. No; I could not swear that Murray ever asked me what my catch was, and I do not swear whether I know the man.

Q. Do you or do you not know the collector of Port Mulgrave, David Murray? Have you ever seen him?—A. I do not know, but I have been at his office.

Q. Have you there seen a man you believed to be him?—A. I do not know as I took notice. I went there for a permit; it was given, me and I went off.

Q. Did you ever state at his office what your catch was?—A. I do not remember that I ever did so.

Q. Did you state to me a few moments ago that you had done so?—A. I do not know as I did.

Q. Do you recollect stating that you told him or his clerk what your catch was?—A. I told you I did so if he asked me about it.

Q. Did they ask you about it?—A. I could not say; they may and they may not. I cannot recollect.

Q. Do I understand you to say that your recollection is an absolute blank on that point; you do not remember stating your catch or whether they asked you about it?—A. No; I do not.

Q. Were you there on October 20, 1874?—A. No.

Q. You were not there at Port Mulgrave?—A. No.

Q. Were you there September 1st, 1874?—A. Well, I was only there that once. I do not know when it was, but I think it was somewhere in the first part of September. That is the only time we were there, save when we came from home. We stopped at Pirate's Cove, two or three miles below Port Mulgrave.

Q. Is that where Murray's office is?—A. No.

Q. And you do not know whether you saw him or not?—A. No.

Q. But you may have seen him?—A. I do not know the man. I could not tell him if I saw him.

Q. In this report to which your attention has been called, it is mentioned that the *Alferetta*, a Gloucester vessel, landed fish there the 1st of September, and was there October 20th, 1874, on the second trip with 170 barrels.—A. That is not correct.

Q. What was your total catch that year?—A. 315 barrels or thereabouts.

Q. Mr. Murray reports it 400 barrels?—A. That is the way reports get carried round, repeated many times; and they thus make one have more fish than he caught. I think this is the case sometimes.

Q. Were you more than once in the Gut of Canso that year?—A. We were there three times on our way up, and on our way home, and once to land some fish.

Q. Did you stop there when you were going home?—A. Yes; to take the 50 barrels on board.

Q. In whose charge were they left?—A. In Mr. Hartley's.

Q. Did you inform him what your catch was?—A. I do not recollect; but most likely I did. He most always seemed to ask what it was.

Q. And if you did so inform him, of course you told him the truth?—A. Yes. I would tell him what we had.

Q. You never fished in the Bay of Chaleurs?—A. No; save once, when we tried and failed.

Q. Did you try near the shore there?—A. We tried all over the bay.

Q. Did you try there near the shore within the three-mile limit?—A. Yes; I think we did.

Q. When was this?—A. It was a number of years ago.

Q. During the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Was a portion of the fleet accustomed to resort to the Bay of Chaleurs to fish?—A. Only a very few vessels were in it when we were there.

Q. Were the fleet accustomed to repair there for the purpose of fishing?—A. I could not tell, I am sure.

Q. Did you never hear that this was their custom?—A. I have heard that some vessels went there.

Q. That a portion of the fleet did so?—A. Some vessels—yes.

Q. Did you hear that a portion of the fleet was accustomed to fish there?—A. I do not know that I ever heard of more than 10 or 12 sail of our vessels being there at one time.

Q. And if they were there, you do not know whether this was the case or not?—A. Of course; I only know what I have heard.

Q. Did you never fish around Bonaventure?—A. Yes, off and on.

Q. But anywhere along the shore?—A. No.

Q. Have you fished about Seven Islands?—A. Yes, once; but I did not catch anything.

Q. You never fished there again?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know whether any portion of the fleet was accustomed to fish there at times?—A. There were not a great many vessels there then; perhaps there were 8 or 10.

Q. But during the year?—A. I do not think so.

Q. You know that some vessels go there?—A. Well, some few do.

Q. Did you ever fish around the shores of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes, but very little. I have tried there off and on, at different times, and over across to East Point, Magdalen Islands, and then come right back to Malpeque.

Q. Have you fished around East Point?—A. I have tried there.

Q. Close in shore?—A. I do not think that I was ever within the three-mile limit.

Q. Are you positive about this?—A. No.

Q. You may have fished there within the three-mile limit?—A. Yes; but I could not say.

Q. You were on the Alferetta in 1863?—A. Yes.

Q. And you caught about 330 barrels each trip?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you catch any portion of the first trip in 1863 within three miles of Prince Edward Island?—A. We never caught a fish in sight of Prince Edward Island.

Q. That year?—A. No; we came out of Souris and went straight to the Magdalen Islands; and we never left there until we started for home, in the latter part of August, I think.

Q. Do you know John F. Campion?—A. Yes; he was with us that trip.

Q. Do you know that he has been examined here?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you had his statement read to you?—A. Yes, I have seen it

Q. And you heard what he said about that first trip in the Alferetta?—A. Yes.

Q. He was asked—

Q. What was your catch in the Alferetta that year?—A. During the one trip that I was in her we caught 300 barrels.

Q. Were they caught outside the three-mile limit or close inshore?—A. Some were caught between East Point, Margaree, and the balance around the island and the Magdalen Islands.

Q. What distance were you from the shore?—A. One-third of that trip was caught between East Point and the Magdalen Islands, and the balance close to the shore of both islands.

A. That is not correct; we never hove to in sight of the island.

Q. Your memory differs from his on that point?—A. Well, I cannot help that. We went right straight to the Magdalen Islands, and we left there the latter part of August.

Q. And you are equally sure that you did not catch any fish that year within the three-mile limit, as you are that you did not do so any other year?—A. I am certain as to that year, because we were full of mackerel when we went home.

Q. Do you mean to speak from your recollection as to that year, respecting the distance you fished from the shore, as distinct from and better than for other years?—A. No; but I can tell when we catch fish at the Magdalen Islands—when we get whole fares there.

Q. You are just as sure respecting other years as this year?—A. I do not know about other years when we get fish at different places; but when I catch a whole trip at a certain place, I recollect that pretty well.

Q. You did not catch that whole trip at the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes, we did.

Q. Where did you catch the second trip that year?—A. Mostly at the Magdalen Islands, and between them and Margaree.

Q. Did you take any portion of it at Margaree?—A. No; but the last day we fished after we left Magdalen Islands, we were just in sight of Margaree.

Q. You do not appear to have fished, except on one occasion, within three miles of the shore?—A. I never caught any fish inshore to amount to anything.

Q. In 1866 you took out a license?—A. Yes.

Q. You had fished in the bay for 14 years previously, and though you had never caught any fish inshore, you deemed it necessary to take out a license then?—A. I thought the license was cheap, and I had heard a good deal about vessels being driven round, and so I thought I would take one.

Q. But you did not catch any fish that year within the three-mile limit?—A. I do not know that we did, save at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. The price of the licenses doubled the next year, and still you took out another. What explanation have you to make as to your motives for doing so?—A. If we found mackerel anywhere inshore, we could have fished there.

Q. And still during sixteen years you had never taken any fish within three miles of the shore?—A. Yes; but I might not have got fish at the Magdalen Islands that year, and then I could have gone somewhere else.

Q. Had you an impression that the fishery would fail that year at the Magdalen Islands?—A. No; the license did not cost a great deal. I only paid half of it, and I thought it best to be sure, and be on the safe side.

Q. Then the possible failure of the fishing at the Magdalen Islands had nothing to do with your motives in doing so? You must have had some other motives?—A. We then had a right to go anywhere we had a mind to.

Q. When you had the license?—A. Of course.

Q. But why did you do so, when for 16 years you had never caught any fish there?—A. We did not know what we would do.

Q. Had you heard from others that the fleet were accustomed to take the fish inshore?—A. Well, no; I do not know as I ever heard of anybody catching a great many fish within the three-mile limit; but I know the fish were caught 5, 6, 7, and 8 miles off shore, and the like of that.

Q. Or 4 miles off?—A. Yes; I suppose so; but I cannot say what others have done.

Q. You have heard of the fish being taken within 4 miles of the coast?—A. I suppose that some few have been caught there.

Q. Have you so heard?—A. I could not say. When talking about these matters, fishermen do not state any regular distance. A man does not say he caught his fish 4 or 3 miles off shore, but that he fished off East Point or Malpeque, or wherever he may have been. They generally do not state the distance.

Q. You have heard that the fleet fished off East Point, and Malpeque, and Margaree, without reference to distance?—A. Well, I suppose that off Margaree mackerel have been taken inshore; more are so caught there than elsewhere.

Q. Did you hear from the captains in the fleet that they were accustomed to take fish off the places I have named?—A. Yes. I knew that they do take them there.

Q. Did you hear that this was their custom?—A. I do not know that any special man came and told me he did so, but if I asked a man where he caught his mackerel, he would say at such a place, wherever it might be.

Q. Did you ever hear from the captains in the fleet that they took their mackerel at East Point, Malpeque, or Margaree?—A. Well, I have heard of mackerel being caught at all those 3 places, but never heard of them having been taken at any regular distance off shore that I know of.

Q. But what you heard from these captains had nothing to do with your taking out licenses?—A. Well, I do not know as it did. When a man comes to the bay for a trip of mackerel if he does not find them at one place he generally goes to another; and if you have a license you can go all round.

Q. You have stated that you did not do that?—A. I did not because I found mackerel somewhere else.

Q. Therefore you did not want licenses?—A. We did not know what we were going to do when we took them out.

Q. But you had had an experience of sixteen years there?—A. Yes; but I did not know what would happen sixteen years to come. There is a good deal of difference between the two.

Q. Have you heard that of late years the mackerel have changed their habits somewhat, and are found nearer the shore than used to be the case?—A. Yes; I have heard of them being caught by boats off Prince Edward Island, but never so nigh the shore as is now represented.

I have been up and down the island, and I have seen boats fishing four miles off and three miles off and outside, I think.

Q. When was this?—A. I do not know that it was in any particular year, but it was when I was up the island around Malpeque and came down by East Point.

Q. Do you know the distance from the shore at which mackerel are now taken off Prince Edward Island?—A. No. I have not been in the bay since 1874.

Q. Did your experience, then, inform you, or had you heard it from others, that the habits of the mackerel had somewhat changed, and that they were now found and taken closer inshore than they used to be?—A. No; I do not know as this was the case.

Q. You never heard of it?—A. I do not think that I did.

Q. But you stated just now that you had heard something about it?—A. I do not recollect saying so.

Q. You said that the boats were now taking fish inshore?—A. I have heard of that since I came down here.

Q. But never previously?—A. No; I do not know as I ever did.

Q. You said you have lost a good deal of money on some of these trips?—A. No, not a great deal; but I have not made much.

Q. But you have made money?—A. I have a house, and that is all.

Q. Were you a member of a firm?—A. No.

Q. You were merely a fisherman?—A. Yes.

Q. For what firm did you go out?—A. I have fished for a number of firms; the last one was that of Rowe & Jordan.

Q. Are you aware whether these firms made money or not?—A. Well, I could not say; I suppose that some do, and that some do not—on the fish after they are landed. I do not think that the vessels make much money, but I do not know. We used to get an average stock.

Q. What would be a fair charter a month for a vessel of 75 tons?—A. I could not tell you.

Q. Did you never charter one?—A. No; I never heard of a vessel having been chartered at any place for ten or twelve years; but this used to be done.

Q. Do you not know what a fair ordinary charter for a vessel of that size is?—A. It would be about \$200 I suppose for a large vessel.

Q. But for a vessel of 75 tons?—A. A vessel of small size for the fishing season of perhaps nine months, would cost, I suppose, about \$100 a month; but I do not know for certain what would be the charge. I have not known any vessels to be chartered for a good many years.

Q. Did you go to McGuire's or Hartley's when you went to Cape Breton in 1874?—A. I went to Hartley's.

Q. You are quite sure about that?—A. We always fitted out there; we never fitted out at any other place.

Q. Had you during the seasons you were fishing, or say in 1874, any British fishermen with you—Cape Breton men, Nova Scotians, or Prince Edward Islanders, besides Americans?—A. I do not know that we had any in 1874.

Q. Do you remember whether you had or not?—A. No; I do not remember all the names of the crew.

Q. In 1863, when Campion was with you, had you any other colonial fishermen with you?—A. We had one man who belonged to the island.

Q. Who was he?—A. He lived at Gloucester then, and his name was Frank Chivari, think.

Q. It was not Simon Chivari?—A. He went by the name of Frank.

Q. Do you remember any other colonial fishermen who were with you

during any of the years when you were fishing?—A. No; I do not know as I do. We had one or two one year, but I do not know as I could recollect their names.

Q. I would like you to do it if you can.—A. We had one man named Jim Rose, I think.

Q. Where was he from?—A. Prince Edward Island. I think that was his name.

Q. What year was this?—A. I could not tell you exactly. It was eight or nine years ago, I think.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. You said you had been to Fortune Bay, Newfoundland, for frozen herring?—A. Yes; that was 12 or 13 years ago.

Q. You have not been there since?—A. No.

Q. Are you aware whether the herring are now shipped from there in bulk or in barrels?—A. We took them in bulk.

Q. And frozen herring are invariably shipped in bulk?—Yes. I never knew them to be shipped in any other way.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. You told Mr. Davies you once saw as many as 200 vessels in Port Hood?—A. Yes; a good many English vessels were in the fleet at the time.

Q. What year was this?—A. I do not know as I could tell the year exactly. I suppose it was somewhere about nine or ten years ago; it was at the time of a heavy breeze, I remember.

Q. Can you tell how many of these vessels were British?—A. O, well, I suppose that nearly one-half of them were so; I should think that these vessels numbered 80 or 90 sail sure.

Q. They were not all fishing vessels, were they?—A. Yes; some were cod-fishers and a good many mackerel-fishers.

Q. When you were at Port Hood in 1874, how many American vessels were there then?—A. The fleet was not very large that year.

Q. How many did it number?—A. I could not exactly tell; sometimes a greater and sometimes a lesser number was there; perhaps there were 40 sail.

Q. Were you at Port Mulgrave June 25, 1874?—A. No; we were then at home.

Q. When did you leave home?—A. After the 4th of July. We always left home after this date, one year excepted, and that was in 1856, to the best of my knowledge. We then went after poor mackerel.

Q. Could the Alferetta have been there on the 25th of June, 1854?—A. No; I do not think so.

Q. Do you only think not?—A. No. I owned half of her, and we were on George's Bank at that date. We always go there up to the 4th of July.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. Did you call at Hartley's on the way through?—A. I think that we did.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. You did not leave Gloucester that year until after the 4th of July?—A. No.

Q. How do you know that you were not there on the 20th of October? Where were you then?—A. In the bay. We might have been going out at that date. We generally leave the bay about the 20th or the 25th of October.

Q. How do you know that you did not stop at Port Mulgrave on your way out?—A. Because we never stop there; we never did so in my life.

Q. Did you stop at Pirate's Cove?—A. Yes; we always do stop there.

Q. Were you in Pirate's Cove on the 20th of October, 1874?—A. We might have been. We generally go out the 20th or the 25th of that month, though some vessels stay a little later.

Q. You were in the bay somewhere on that 20th of October?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. You are mistaken about Port Mulgrave; all the part you mention is Mulgrave?—A. I do not know but that it is.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Where is the place at which Murray's office was?—A. It was at the place we call Mulgrave.

Q. The first date, 25th of June, cannot be right?—A. No.

Q. But on the 20th of October you may have been at Pirate's Cove?—A. I could not say that, but we might have then been going out of the bay.

Q. What did you stop there for that year?—A. We had some mackerel to take in; some 50 barrels.

Q. And what else had you to do there?—A. We put a few empties ashore to make room for the others, and took in a little wood, water, &c.

Q. How many empty barrels did you remove?—A. As many as we had landed.

Q. Can there be any mistake at all about the number of mackerel?—A. No, I do not think it. There cannot be any mistake. We did not make but one trip that year, and we did not have a full trip. I am sure of that.

Q. As to John F. Campion, I notice on the 33d page of the evidence, British side, that he was examined and answered as follows:

Q. This was in the year 1865?—A. I was then in the *Alferetta* still; her captain was named Cash.

Who was then captain of the *Alferetta*?—A. I was her skipper every year since she was built.

Q. Were you part owner of her in 1865?—A. Yes, and ever since she was four months old up to last fall.

Q. Was Campion with you in 1865?—A. No. He was never with us save on one trip.

Q. Is there a Gloucester captain named Cash?—A. Yes, but I could not say whether he was fishing that year. I only know one captain of that name.

Q. In 1863 Campion was with you on one trip?—A. Yes, it was on the first trip.

Q. Was it the first trip of the year?—A. It was the first mackerel voyage.

Q. Was he with you cod-fishing?—A. He went on the first trip. We shipped him at the Island after we went down there.

Q. He says you shipped him at Gloucester?—A. We did not do so; he shipped at the island.

Q. His evidence is as follows on this point:

Q. And the next year, 1863?—A. I was also then in the fishing business.

Q. In what vessel?—A. The schooner *Alferetta*, Captain Rowe.

Q. Did you begin early that year?—A. Yes; we started in July.

Q. Where did you go?—A. We came to the Bay of the St. Lawrence.

Q. Was she a Gloucester schooner?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you go that season to the Southern fishing grounds along the American coast?—A. No. I was in Gloucester when the vessel went out there, but I did not go.

Q. Why?—A. Simply because I did not think there was any money in the transaction. I remained idle, as did many others at the time that year. I had never any faith in the Southern fisheries, because I saw that a great many people who went there did not make much.

Q. A good many others were idle as well as yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. You waited until fishing commenced in the Bay of St. Lawrence?—A. Yes.

His evidence continues:

Q. One-third were caught altogether outside the limits?—A. Yes. We went home with the trip. I think it was in August we returned to Gloucester. We caught about 300 barrels.

Q. He means packed, I suppose; that was about the number we packed. He shipped with us on that trip at Souris.

Q. Are you positive about that?—A. We went to the bay one hand short; men were not very plenty at Gloucester. Vessels often have to go that way. The cook's wife wanted to go down, and we accommodated her; and then when we went in this man wanted to go and we shipped him.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Did I understand you to say you had licenses for 3 years?—A. No; but for 2 —, 1866 and 1867.

Q. In 1866, 50 cents a ton was charged?—A. I think so.

Q. And the next year \$1?—A. Yes; and I think the price was raised the third year to \$2, but we did not take out any that year, and that is the reason why vessels did not then purchase them, I think.

Q. I should like you to state more fully what considerations you had in addition to those you have mentioned, if there were any, for taking out licenses.—A. Well, I do not think there were any others. When we had a license we could go any where without being bothered, and this might have been the case 4, 5, and 6 miles off shore.

Q. The sense of being secure whenever you went in the bay was your motive, or part of it?—A. Yes; I suppose so. I have heard of vessels having been sometimes so bothered, but this was never the case with me save once.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. During the 23 years you fished in the bay were you ever interrupted by the cutters?—A. Yes; once.

Q. Where were you then?—A. Going to Gaspé; this was in 1852 or 1853; I would not be certain about the year.

Q. You were then within the limits?—A. We were not fishing; we were going to a harbor in company with some 25 vessels.

Q. Did they board you?—A. Yes; every vessel was boarded.

Q. From 1852 to 1866 you were never interfered with by the cutters?—A. No.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Explain what happened at the time you were boarded off Gaspé.—A. It looked stormy and quite a fresh breeze was blowing when we were working up there. Most of the fleet were there, and the men on a steamer had boarded them and forbidden them to go in; and when we got there they boarded us and did the same thing. This occurred about 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and we staid round till late in the afternoon; it may have been 4 o'clock when they told us that we could go in, and we did so.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. Give the name of the captain of that cutter.—A. I could not tell

either his name or the steamer's name. I forget them now ; it is so long ago, and I do not know that I knew them at the time.

No. 35.

MOSES TARR, of Gloucester, Massachusetts, fish-merchant and fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescott :

Question. You are a native of Gloucester ?—Answer. Yes.

Q. State to the Commissioners what your business and occupation have been in Gloucester ; what positions you have held, and the character of the experience you have had.—A. I commenced to go a fishing when a boy. I worked on a farm, and afterwards, early in life, I fished some. I have made mercantile voyages, and have, subsequent to that time, been in a commercial and fishing business, owning and fitting a large number of vessels, and I have held under two or three administrations office under the General Government. I have been president of a Gloucester Mutual Fire Insurance Company for several years, and was, during our rebellion, four or five years doing business at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. I have done most of the different classes of business for New England men.

Q. So that in various capacities, partially in the custom-house, partially as president of an insurance company, partly as fisherman, and partly as fish-merchant you have had a large and full experience of the Gloucester fisheries ?—A. Yes, I have.

Q. Now, with regard to the mackerel-fishing of Gloucester, has it increased or declined in the course of your experience ?—A. It has, in the course of my experience, done both. In my first knowledge of it our vessels were small and the catch quite small, and it grew to be an important business subsequent to 1833, 1834, and 1835. About our earliest fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, I should say, for mackerel was from 1832 to 1834. I don't remember the date of the first catching of mackerel in the bay. I was in 1832 there myself as a youngster, for codfish. I don't remember knowing anything about any mackerel in the bay or mackerel-fishing at that time, or previous to that time.

Q. Then it grew up from that time ?—A. The mackerel fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence grew up from about that time. That was the first. We commenced by a vessel or two at a time. Perhaps the two first years they didn't catch but a few hundred barrels, or a few thousand perhaps, and it grew from that time up to eighteen hundred and some of the earliest years of forty, forty-one, and forty-two. It afterward declined and nearly failed out. I had a vessel that came in, after being there for the whole season, with as low as 30 or 60 barrels. I have known the mackerel to be very plenty on our coast for a series of years and then to run down, and almost no fish ; only 100 barrels would be an ordinary fair catch for the season.

Q. Now, what, according to your recollection and knowledge of the Gloucester business, was the fleet employed in the mackerel fishery in the gulf when it was at its highest ?—A. I should think it was at its highest during the rebellion.

Q. What was the number of the fleet employed then ?—A. I should think we had over two hundred vessels.

Q. What is it now in the gulf from Gloucester ?—A. We had when I came away vessels that were considered to have gone there 68.

Q. When you say that the number of vessels employed in the gulf

was larger during the rebellion, and that the fishing of mackerel was at its height, must there not have been some exceptional demand for mackerel? Was there not an exceptional demand arising from the demand for the Army?—A. Yes; everything ran high. But I think we had had a larger number of vessels there before, say in '49, '52, or '53, but not so much tonnage.

Q. Then, if I understand you, within the last series of years the mackerel fishery of Gloucester has declined rather than increased?—A. It has declined; yes.

Q. Now, has the mackerel fishery of Gloucester declined as compared with its cod-fishery; so far as the industry of Gloucester as a fishing-port is concerned, what is the relation of the mackerel to the cod fishery?—A. Well, I should think the relative importance of the two classes of business, if I understand you aright, would be seventy-five per cent. codfish to twenty-five per cent. mackerel.

Sir ALEXANDER GALT. Are you asking him generally?

Mr. TRESGOT. I am asking him as to the relations that the two industries bear to each other in Gloucester. He says 75 per cent. codfish and 25 mackerel.

Sir ALEXANDER GALT. That is both on the American coast and in the gulf?

Mr. TRESGOT. Yes.

Q. Do you know what is the relation of the cod fishery to the mackerel fishery this year?—A. Well, I should think it was 90 per cent.

Q. Do you know what the relative values of the cod fishery and the mackerel fishery were last year in Gloucester?—A. I don't know.

Q. Now, from your experience in the various capacities in which you have done business in Gloucester, as fisherman, as fish merchant, as president of an insurance company, as being in the custom-house, what would you suppose would be the profit of fishing in Gloucester; is it large or small?—A. Small.

Q. What is it derived from, the fishing or the handling of the fish?—

A. The handling of the fish. The earnings of the fishermen are very small for a family to live on in Gloucester, as everywhere else. They labor ten months in the year in Gloucester, and I think that the average earnings of fishermen would be considered good when they averaged \$300 apiece.

Q. Then, I understand that the profit of the fisheries in Gloucester, as you understand the industry of the town, is a mercantile profit and not a fishing profit?—A. It is a mercantile profit. The fish are brought in. When the vessel arrives at the wharf they are purchased with a fair competition, there being 40 or 50 purchasers, and the crews are paid off as soon as the fish are weighed out, and the fish then become a mercantile rather than a fishing interest.

Q. Now, with your experience of fishing and what you have seen and known, have you ever been able to form an opinion as to the gulf fisheries; that is, as to what per cent. of those caught there are caught in deep water and what per cent. within three miles?—A. I have had some acquaintance with it by my business, and being in the bay fishing for mackerel myself two years, and knowing those who have been.

Q. What would you say was the percentage?—A. Well, very small. If I had to set it down, I should say there was 15 per cent. caught within the three-mile limit.

Q. You referred to the fact, as I understood, that you had been living at Prince Edward Island four years?—A. I did. Well, I went home, perhaps, twice a year.

Q. When you lived at Charlottetown, what were you doing?—A. My main business was the purchasing of produce. The purchasing of oats was the main business, and as incidental to the business I have shipped 10,000 to 20,000 bushels of potatoes, and what fish I dealt in, that is, mackerel, not codfish. I competed with two or three others for them.

Q. Can you give me the extent of your purchase of fish in any year?—A. My purchases of mackerel were small. There was a Mr. Hall and one or two other parties there who owned and were running boats themselves, and their fish came to them. What fish I bought were such as the farmers and fishermen living on the north side of the island caught and brought into market without regard to those places that had stations. I could not say that I bought more than 200, or 300, or 400 barrels while I was living at Charlottetown.

Q. Are you familiar with the habits and ways of the boat-fishermen on the island?—A. Yes; I have been invited out there to give an opinion in relation to the manner of their curing their fish. They were premature in the business, and didn't understand the business as we did. I used to go out to Rustico, to Malpeque, to Souris, and across the island to Bouche, I believe it is, and those places. I used to see there, and I understand the manner of their fishing.

Q. Now, with regard to that boat-fishing, with your knowledge of it in your four years' residence there and purchasing of fish from those people, can you form any idea from what they have told you, or what you saw, as to the distance at which they caught fish? How did they carry on that fishery, when did they go out, how far did they go, and when did they come in?—A. The boats there are manned, except the fishermen's and farmers' boats, by three, and perhaps some smaller ones by two, and up to four men. They go about daylight in the morning; between that and sunrise. The distance from the shore depends entirely upon where they find mackerel or codfish such as they are fishing for, and they are not likely to catch them within two miles—seldom within that. Two miles is a very short distance from the land. Sometimes they are inside of that, undoubtedly, and from that they go to three, four, five, six, and seven miles, and exceptionally beyond that.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. When did you say you were living in Prince Edward Island?—A. From the fall of 1861 to the fall of 1866.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. And about the character of this fish—you have dealt more or less in them all during that time; how did you find them?—A. Well, the mackerel-fishing commences its course about the 10th or 20th of June. That would be my judgment. The earliest fish are seldom caught before the 20th of June. Then the mackerel are poor and are like all other poor mackerel, even if taken care of they are No. 3. They increase from that and become No. 2, and when you get along to the middle or the 10th of August the mackerel generally, in seasons of good fishing, are then very handsome fair mackerel. But no one can testify what the mackerel will be next year through the season by what it is this year.

Q. What was the preparation of the fish by these people from whom you bought? How did it compare with the preparation by thorough mackerel fishers?—A. Well, we should not sell any of them that time for a fancy article. They were put ashore in the little barns and places where they kept them and many of them were careless with them, and would be a week, perhaps, filling a barrel. While they were waiting

some of them would be injured. But some that were acquainted with the business cured them comfortably well.

Q. Can you give me any idea of the amount of fish caught around the shores of Prince Edward Island?—A. Well, I think the year I was there they would range from 4,000 to 7,000 barrels—not exceeding 7,000 barrels, maybe.

Q. The shore fisheries?—A. Yes; the island fisheries.

Q. These fish were bought up by the merchants who dealt in fish and were exported?—A. Yes.

Q. Who bought most largely?—A. Mr. Hall and Mr. Carvell—Mr. Hall, I think, most largely.

Q. What proportion of them did Mr. Hall get?—A. I suppose he got nearly half. The rest were distributed among such as came into competition for them.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. When did you leave the island; ten years ago?—A. I left the island—well, I left my business there in the spring of 1866.

Q. You have resided in the States since that?—A. I have always resided in the States; my residence in the island was only a temporary home for the season.

Q. How many years were you doing business there?—A. From 1861—the fall of 1861—until 1865.

Q. Have you read over the evidence with regard to the boat fishery that has been given before the Commission?—A. No, I haven't read any testimony.

Q. I presume you know most of the men residing in Rustico?—I am somewhat familiar with them.

Q. Do you know Alexander McNeil?—A. Yes.

Q. Churchill?—A. Yes.

Q. And Marshall?—A. Yes.

Q. These are all respectable men?—A. Yes.

Q. Men of truth?—A. Yes; I don't know anything to the contrary, as far as I know.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. You spoke of the commencement of the mackerel fishery in the bay as being about 1830?—A. I think I said 1832 or 1833.

Q. I understood you to say it declined about 1841?—A. Yes, it fell off, I think, about 1841.

Q. Then it increased again until the time of the war?—A. No, not entirely until the time of the war. It fell off again after that, but we were doing as well in 1852, '3, '4 again; that would be my remembrance. But I think we got as many mackerel in the gulf in the few years of the war as any other time.

Q. Now again it has fallen off, I understand you to say?—A. Entirely; it has almost entirely fallen off as far as any profitable business is concerned.

Q. You said there were only 68 vessels this year?—A. Yes.

Q. Has it declined periodically on the American coast also?—A. Yes.

Q. I wanted to ask you just this, whether the fishing is good at the same time in your observation on the American coast and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or whether it fluctuates and is good on your coast and bad in the gulf in the same year and *vice versa*?—A. I don't think there could be a distinct line drawn there, but I think it is sometimes the case that it resolves itself into that in a measure.

Q. It is occasionally good on the American coast and occasionally in

the gulf, but not usually good on both coasts at the same time ?—A. I have known it to be good on both coasts, but when we can find it good at home we should rather fish there.

Q. It has not been very good this year ?—A. No, it is not.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. How does the fishing on the coast compare with the fishing in the gulf ?—A. With the same kind of fishing, do you mean ?

Q. No ; but with the kind of fishing that is practiced, which is seine fishing altogether. How does the seine fishing on the coast compare with hand-line fishing in the gulf ? Is it or is it not cheaper ?—A. With the same quantity of fish taken, we can do it a good deal cheaper at home.

By Mr. Weatherbe :

Q. Generally speaking, it is cheaper fishing ?—A. Yes ; it is cheaper at home, because at home we can catch 100 barrels to-day and pack them to-morrow.

Q. You are only speaking now of the years when it is prosperous on your coast ?—A. Yes.

Q. You are not speaking of an average of, say, 10 or 15 years ? Take the most prosperous fishing on your coast and the most prosperous years in the gulf, there is more to be made in the gulf-fishing ?—A. No, sir ; not with the same class of fishing.

Q. I suppose you didn't make up any estimate ?—A. No ; but I have it in my mind and in my books.

Q. Had you been in the business of mackerel-fishing on your own coast before you came into the gulf ?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you carry it on yet ?—A. No ; I gave it up altogether.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. When you speak of 15 per cent. of the mackerel being caught in-shore, do you embrace in that the mackerel caught by the boats ?—A. No ; that has nothing to do with the provincial fishermen. I speak of our catch.

By Mr. Weatherbe :

Q. You commenced in 1861 down there in Charlottetown ?—A. Yes ; the first business I did there was in the fall of 1861.

Q. You had an establishment at Cascumpec ?—A. No.

No. 36.

BENJAMIN ASHBY, of Noank, Connecticut, fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana :

Question. Noank is situated to the eastward of New London ?—Answer. Yes, about seven miles from New London.

Q. It is between New London and Stonington ?—A. Yes, about midway.

Q. Are you now attached to the United States schooner Speedwell ?—A. No, I am not,

Q. How many years had you been fishing ?—A. Forty-four this last April.

Q. How old were you when you began ?—A. Nine years old.

Q. You are Benjamin Ashby, junior. Your father is living, and a fisherman ?—A. He is living, but he is too big to be a fisherman ; he has been.

Q. Now, when did you first go in charge of a vessel?—A. I had charge of a vessel thirty-three years.

Q. You took charge of a vessel 32 years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. That was in 1845, was it?—A. Before that. I had a vessel built in 1843, and I had had charge of a vessel then two or three years.

Q. Did you sail out of Stonington?—A. I sailed out of Noank, Connecticut, every time. I never failed to go out of the port, and always from the same custom-house too.

Q. Now, in what kind of fishing have you been engaged during this long period?—A. Halibut-fishing.

Q. Substantially that has been exclusively your occupation?—A. That has been all my business up till the last two or three years, until I gave up the business, and gave it into somebody else's hands.

Q. Where have you caught your halibut?—A. The majority of them on Nantucket shoals.

Q. What other places?—A. Upon the Georges, in May and June and part of July; and for seven years, two trips a year, I have been over on to Brown's Bank. I have been in sight of Seal Island twice, and Cape Sable two or three times.

Q. With those exceptions, it has been on the Georges and Nantucket shoals?—A. What we call the Southwest Georges.

Q. Those are nearer?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the course of the halibut business—when do you leave port, for instance?—A. We leave about the middle of March.

Q. Then you go first to the Southwest George's?—A. Southeast from Nantucket shoals.

Q. How long do you usually fish there?—A. Till the 1st of May.

Q. Then after the 1st of May you go to the George's?—A. Yes, sir; we stay until July. The last of July we are on the northeast part of the George's.

Q. Then where?—A. For the last seven years I have gone across to LaHave and to Brown's.

Q. Before the last seven years where did you go in the autumn?—A. We used to quit. I didn't know anything about coming over to this shore at all for halibut.

Q. How is the halibut business carried on now from the places in that region?—A. It is not carried on at all from Noank, because there is only one vessel fishes at all, and she has only been one trip this season. This same vessel was to Mobile all winter.

Q. These halibut you carry fresh to market?—A. Yes, all fresh to New York.

Q. Your vessels are smacks, are they?—A. Yes, with wells in them.

Q. About how often do you run into New York?—A. About once a month. One trip a month is about the biggest we can do.

Q. What kind of bait do you use?—A. I don't know how to answer you—whether to say menhaden, hardheads, pogies, or what.

Q. You mean the same thing, do you?—A. Yes; it is pogies or menhaden. I suppose you all understand it. It is one kind of fish altogether, but has a good many names.

Q. I want you to state to the Commission how long you keep that bait in ice. You have a special way of icing it, haven't you? Now, how long are you able to keep it in the way you prepare it for use?—A. Well, do you want me to plan out an ice-house?

Q. No; how long can you use it iced in the way you ice it?—A. Well, the way I have put it up to preserve it I have fished with it when it has

stood in ice 33 days, and have caught fish with it just as well as when we first commenced to fish with it.

Q. Then you are able, with iced bait, to go out on those shoals of Nan-tucket and the George's catching until you go back to New York ordinarily. You required no fresh supply?—A. We never pretend to make any fresh supply.

Q. You never did all these 40 years?—A. No.

Q. Now, tell these gentlemen how you prepare that bait to keep it so well.—A. I have an ice-house. The ice is cut 22 inches square in our State the way we take it in. We stow two cakes in breadth and three in length in the house, whether it is 12 inches thick or 20 inches thick. We leave a whole tier in the bottom. Then we take these pogies and put them four inches thick; then about the same thickness of fine ice, as fine as we can pound it—snow would be better. We put the same thickness of ice that we have of fish. Then we put another tier of fish, and then some ice again, till we stow from 7,000 to 10,000 of these fish right in one house. Then we fill all round the sides and all over the top with the fine ice, and then cover it with canvass to keep it. I have fished with it when it has been 33 days, and it has been good bait to fish with.

Q. Now you have a floor of cakes of ice?—A. Yes, we call them in our vessels bed-rooms.

Q. What is the depth of pogies you put on?—A. About four inches.

Q. Then four inches of fine ice?—A. Yes.

Q. Ground up?—A. We pound it as fine as we can with the axe: we have no mills.

Q. Then four inches of ice, then pogies, then ice again?—A. Yes, we fill it full.

Q. What is the advantage of that mode of preparing the ice?—A. It is all frozen solid and good. The top of the ice, when it gets frozen, bears its own weight, and it is not on the fish. It forms a kind of a crust upon the fish, and there is no air gets through it, I suppose, and it does not make any weight on the fish underneath.

Q. In case there is any melting, what is the effect on the bait?—A. When it begins to melt and the crust breaks away the fish begin to decay.

Q. You avert that or prolong the period by your mode?—A. Yes.

Q. If the water forms there does it draw up?—A. No, it goes down. the sides. We have it stowed so that the water that forms goes each side of this house.

Q. It runs off?—A. Yes.

Q. Is your method of preserving this fish practiced in any other place than your region of New London and Noank?—A. I am not acquainted. I have seen Cape Ann fishermen stowing bait, but I never went in for the science of their stowing it. There is too much wood around the vicinity of the bait. I have seen them stowing herring. I never saw them stowing pogies.

Q. Now, you say you have been to Brown Bank one trip?—A. I have been about two trips a year for seven years.

Q. Did you use the same bait, prepared in the same way?—A. Yes.

Q. You had no occasion to go in for bait?—A. No.

Q. You never had?—A. No.

Q. Where is Brown's bank?—A. It is south of Cape Sable, about forty miles from land.

Q. You have been about two trips a year for seven years?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you been to LaHave Bank?—A. I have been about the same number of trips.

Q. How far is that from the land, Nova Scotia?—A. About 60 or 65 miles from Cape Sable, about south by east.

Q. With the same results?—A. Yes.

Q. You used your original pogies and menhaden that you brought from home?—A. Yes.

Q. Now you know Cape Sable, and Cape Sable Island?—A. I don't know Sable Island. I have never been down there—Cape Sable I mean.

Q. How near have you ever been to the shore there fishing?—A. I have fished two trips in my life within sight of Cape Sable light.

Q. Did you always see it?—A. No; once in a while; it was a red light; they have changed it now.

Q. How often have you been there?—A. About three times in my life-time, in 42 years; that is the furthest eastward I have ever fished.

Q. And you never fished nearer the land of Cape Sable than about 15 miles?—A. No; I think it was full 15 miles, if it was not more. I don't know how far you could see; it was very hard to see. It was a red light.

Q. How long can you keep this halibut in the wells on board your smacks?—A. Just as long as we might stay down here in cold water; we keep them in the well alive; we have had them in the well four weeks, just as bright as when they were taken from the water. When we go into Connecticut in the warm water they won't live.

Q. They will live off Nantucket Shoals and off the George's?—A. Through March, April, May, and the fore part of June.

Q. Now when it becomes warm, if there is any danger of their dying, what do you do?—A. We take them out and kill them and stow them in ice.

Q. Do you take more ice than enough to preserve your bait?—A. We have two or two and a half tons generally to preserve our bait. We generally take 25 or 30 tons of ice on the trip.

Q. For the purpose of stowing the halibut?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you give them any food in the wells?—A. No; I have had them there when we have thrown in a lot of menhaden. We have scooped them up and thrown them into the wells with the halibut, and I have taken forty-four out of a halibut after they have been in. But we don't pretend to feed them, because we hardly ever put any food in the wells.

Q. Do you find the halibut after such a long fast just as good as ever?—A. Do I think he is? Yes, sir; I think he is the best fish in the world with the exception of the salmon.

Q. After staying in the well he is just as good as when he is caught?—A. Yes; because he gets rid of all the filth, and he is all fish, what is left of him. He is a splendid fish and I like to catch him. I would quit my meals any time to catch a good halibut.

Q. Do the New London people catch fish the same way with smacks?—A. Yes; the same way.

Q. And they fish in deep waters?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know anything about catching halibut inshore?—A. No; not unless on the Nantucket Shoals, in shoal water on the George's.

Q. Well, I don't call that inshore. I mean near the mainland?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever make port up here?—A. Yes; I have three times—in to northward of Cape Sable.

Q. What port?—A. Stoddart Island.

Q. That is somewhere about Cape Sable?—A. Northward of Cape Sable.

Q. What did you go for?—A. To ride out two hurricanes, two or three of the hardest winds ever I saw blow. That was in—I don't recollect exactly the year. It was in September.

Q. Perhaps the Commission may all know, but from what size to what size do you catch these halibut? I don't mean you to take an extraordinary case, but how do they run?—A. They run about 60 pounds, dressed; that is, the head and tail off, and the "innards" taken out.

Q. Do you take a good deal of pains to clean them?—A. Yes; very much pains. We get all the blood out of the backbone, and everything.

Q. How do you do that?—A. We scrape it out with knives, and wash them with scrub-brooms. We scrub the blood out of the back bone very particularly to keep them.

Q. If you are going to keep halibut in ice for a long time your success depends very much upon the pains you take in fully cleansing them?—A. Yes.

Q. So with the success in keeping bait a long time?—A. Just the same. We clean every bony fish. We take every fish when we want to keep them a long time, and scrub the blood right out of the backbone after the head is off, and wash them very clean. That leaves nothing but the fish and the bone.

Q. How long do you think you could keep your ice; for instance, on the Grand Bank, if you wanted fresh bait for codfish, how long could you keep the bait fresh?—A. I can't tell; because I never went on a salt-fishing cruise in my life. I have never been aboard a salt-fishing vessel. I can't tell anything about that.

Q. How do you catch halibut? Do you use trawls?—A. We use trawls and hand-lines. I call my two hands a trawl. I calculate my trawl would be equal to any other in the vessel.

Q. Which do you think the most of for success generally, the hand-lines or the trawls?—A. Hand-lines wherever we have fished. I have got the marks to show about my trawls right on my hands.

Q. How is the number now and the quantity compared with what it was any 20 or 40 years ago?—A. There is plenty this year by what I have heard and seen of our smacks. I haven't been halibut fishing.

Q. How does this year for halibut fishing on the coast of the United States—I mean the small banks, the Nantucket Shoals, and all around that region—compare with other years?—A. They are plentier than they have been for 35 years.

Q. When your vessels from your town of Noank have got through the halibut fishing, what do they do?—A. Some of them haul up and some go south. I have always hauled up when I have got through the halibut season.

Q. About pound-fishing off the coast of Nantucket and along Rhode Island and Massachusetts, can you tell us about that?—A. I may tell you the best way I know. I have been in the pound business the last two years on the east end of Long Island. Last year at Elizabeth Island. All we had to contend with was Mr. Forbes, a big man from Boston.

Q. Well, he owns the island?—A. Yes.

Q. You didn't have a hard time after all?—A. We had a tip-top time after he found out we didn't want to steal his deer or sheep.

Q. He accommodated you, didn't he, a good deal?—A. His sons came aboard, and they were very polite. We furnished them with bait and everything they wanted. They were very accommodating. All we had to do was to send up to the farm-house and get our milk generally. We furnished them with all the fish they wanted to eat for the summer.

Q. Take the pound-fishing along the coast; perhaps you could describe how the pounds are constructed?—A. Yes; of course we can. We had fifty-seven stakes driven to set them on, some in thirty-five feet of water, some as deep as thirty-eight feet of water. We ran them in from that on the leader until they came into four feet of water.

Q. You drove the stakes in?—A. Yes.

Q. How long are they? How high?—A. They are from thirty-five to forty-eight feet.

Q. They are laid out in a straight line at right angles with the shore?—A. First you drive these stakes down. Then there is a line rove through the bottom of the stake five feet from the end of the stake, through a hole bored in the stake. Then the net is bent on to these lines, and this net is hauled right down to the bottom.

Q. By a sort of cable or chain? Which is it?—A. We have out-haulers.

Q. What keeps them down?—A. These ropes haul them down, and we belay them to the top of the stake.

Q. Do you have a block?—A. There is no block; nothing but the hole through the bottom of the stake.

Q. How far does this line run out to sea?—A. It doesn't run out at all.

Q. But how long is the line of stakes?—A. Nine fathoms.

Q. Then at the end you have little openings for the fish to go into?—A. There is the mouth of the pound.

Q. Are there not two circular or semi-circular places?—A. No; only one, on the inner part of the pound; there is what we call the heart.

Q. That has two openings?—A. Yes; one on each side of the line.

Q. So that whichever way the fish are going they will have to turn in?—A. Yes.

Q. It is owing to the peculiarity of the fish that they will not turn a sharp corner?—A. I suppose so.

Q. Then in the heart there is a square box where they finally come up?—A. It is fifty to sixty feet square. We slack all these lines up. They are all cast off. We have out-haulers to haul the net right up to the top of the water. The fish are all pursed up into one corner.

Q. Now, is that a large business along that coast of Nantucket, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Elizabeth Island?—A. Yes; the biggest fishing in the world.

Q. Has it very much increased?—A. Yes.

Q. How many men does it require to attend one of these pounds?—A. It took three to attend ours—generally three. We had only one pound.

Q. How are the catches, great or small?—A. They are great. They catch anything that comes.

Q. What fish do you principally catch?—A. When we first put on the string we catch halibut and herring or alewives, next mackerel; the next after the mackerel is the dog-fish; then we catch shark, about 25 pounds average; then shad and the chiguit.

Q. Do you catch menhaden?—A. Then scup after that.

Q. What do you say of the scup as a fresh fish for market?—A. It is the biggest fish in the Fulton market.

Q. What do you mean by the biggest fish. It bears the biggest price?—A.

Q. Is there any other name for the scup?—A. The pauguey.

Q. That brings a high price?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there a great deal of it?—A. Yes; very plenty. But this year

they have been very small, and we have taken them out. We have turned out as much as 2,500 barrels of small paugies. They were not salable in the market, and we let them go to grow big.

Q. Does the halibut bring a high or low price?—A. It has run this season from five to ten cents a pound.

Q. But generally the halibut is abundant in the market and the price is low?—A. Yes.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Is the price you mentioned that which you would get for them when you brought them in?—A. No.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Now, can you tell me how many vessels are engaged in cod-fishing for the New York market from your town?—A. There are 32 or 33.

Q. Solely in that business?—A. Yes; altogether.

Q. When do they go to the Banks?—A. The fore part of April.

Q. Where?—A. To Nantucket Shoals altogether.

Q. Now, I want you to describe to the Court whether there is an abundance or otherwise of cod on the Nantucket Shoals; how it is as a cod-fishing region.—A. Well, it is very big field for fishing cod. Last year they found them plentier than for twenty-five or twenty-eight years. They have been very plenty all the season.

Q. This season?—A. Yes; they have plentier than for a good many years back. Right through the summer they have caught them very plenty anywhere from eighteen to twenty-five fathoms of water.

Q. How often do they go in to New York?—A. Once a fortnight, about ten trips, from the first of April to the last of September. Then they quit that ice fishing, and along October and November they carry them alive in wells. They generally carry ice.

Q. You say they run into New York how often?—A. Once a fortnight. They have ten trips of ice-fishing and four trips in the wells.

Q. Now, how many vessels from New London engage in supplying New York with fresh codfish?—A. Well, I have looked over the list. Somewhere between twenty-five and twenty-eight. There should be more.

Q. Is Greenport engaged in the same business?—A. Yes. There are not near so many vessels.

Q. Well, these vessels, you say, are all smacks?—A. Yes.

Q. What tonnage?—A. Anywhere from 20 to 45 tons.

Q. When they have a fare, about how many fish on the average are they able to take in?—A. About 2,500 to a vessel. Some get more and some less. Some have been in with 4,300 or 4,400 of fresh fish.

Q. How much did they sell for by the pound?—A. From three and a half to eight cents. They averaged about five cents a pound.

Q. What would be the average catch to a man?—A. Well, there are about five men to a smack.

Q. How do you fit them out, on shares?—A. Yes. They average about three men to a vessel on shares, and a few men by the month at \$20 and \$25.

Q. Has this fishing for New York market with fresh fish been found profitable?—A. No; they make a living. They just about make enough to live through the winter and start even next spring.

Q. I suppose generally those engaged as merchants in it, doing a mercantile business, make more money?—A. The men in Fulton market make more money. There is where we leave our money.

Q. I think you stated the number and quantity were as large as they ever had been?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you say whether this scup you thought so highly of is abundant?—A. Yes; it is plentier this year than for the past five or six years.

Q. What period of time are they to be found?—A. May and June. They are very small this year. We turn them out to let them go another year.

Q. But when they are full grown how big are they?—A. A pound and a quarter.

Q. How are the mackerel off Block Island and Rhode Island generally, and off Elizabeth Island?—A. They have been very large and plenty this season. We have caught them in our pounds, and one vessel from our place did a pretty good business to the eastward of Block Island, and between Block Island and Gay Head, which is the western side of Martha's Vineyard.

Q. Then the blue fish?—A. They have been very plenty.

Q. What seasons. How long are they there?—A. Well, they are there in the fore part of June till the last of October.

Q. They are caught in Vineyard Sound?—A. Yes.

Q. They send them mostly to New York?—A. Yes; they are all prepared for the New York market.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. I have only a question or two to ask for information. Do you mean to say that these halibut in the tanks live for four weeks without food at all?—A. Yes.

Q. And that they will keep up there?—A. Just as bright as when put in.

Q. In fatness and weight?—A. Yes.

Q. How do you account for it? Do they get food in the water?—A. I don't know anything about it, but they are just as bright after they have been four, five, or six weeks, and just as lively as when they were taken.

Q. Do you change the water?—A. We have about six hundred holes in the bottom of the vessel. It is right through the bottom, and the sea washes in through it.

Q. Do you say you didn't know anything about halibut on the Nova Scotia and Dominion shores until the last few years?—A. For the last seven years.

Q. Have you gone up among them at all?—A. No; I never was there catching halibut.

Q. There is the Island of Cape Sable?—A. I never went round it. I made Cape Sable light three times.

Q. That pound-fishery; what coast is it on?—A. The States of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Q. Do you embrace Massachusetts in your statement about the pound-fishery?—A. Yes; that is where we fished last season.

Q. How far off from the shores do you have these pounds?—A. Maybe six hundred feet on the shore. We run a leader from the shore right off into thirty-six or thirty-eight feet of water.

Q. Do you catch mackerel in them?—A. Yes. We got a lot of mackerel, some 280 odd barrels, and sent them to New York.

Q. They come pretty close in there?—A. Yes; right along.

Q. What takes them in?—A. I can't tell.

Q. Is it bait?—A. There is no bait you can see that time of year.

Q. Are there many of those pounds?—A. Yes.

Q. The whole ground is covered?—A. Yes; wherever they can drive the stakes.

Q. I want to ask you whether these pounds injure the fishing along the shores or not?—A. No; the fish are just as plenty now.

Q. I don't speak of this year, for this is an exceedingly good year, but for five or six years along, have you noticed any diminution of the fishing along there?—A. No.

Q. Are most of the mackerel caught by the pound along that coast?—A. Yes; about all. There is only one of our vessels out of the State of Connecticut for mackerel.

Q. How deep are they?—A. About 40 feet; you have a stake of about 52 feet.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. When you speak of Massachusetts you don't speak of Massachusetts Bay, inside of Cape Ann and Cape Cod?—A. No.

Q. You mean the south shore?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. I simply meant to ask you whether you embraced Massachusetts in the statement that the pound fishing has not diminished the fish?—A. I speak of Buzzard Bay. It is south of Cape Cod.

No. 37.

THURSDAY, *October 4, 1877.*

The Conference met.

JOSEPH F. BROWN, of Gloucester, Massachusetts, master mariner and fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You live in Gloucester?—Answer. Yes.

Q. You are 34 years old?—A. About that.

Q. Where have you been fishing this summer?—A. On the north side of Prince Edward Island, at Tracadie.

Q. What is the name of the schooner you have been fishing in?—A. The Riverdale.

Q. What time did you go to the island?—A. I arrived there the 25th day of July.

Q. What has become of the schooner now?—A. She was cast away on Tracadie Beach the 22d day of September.

Q. How have you been fishing this summer?—A. In boats.

Q. Not from a vessel?—A. No.

Q. Did you go up to fish in boats?—A. Yes; we fitted for that voyage expressly to fish in boats.

Q. How many boats did you take?—A. Two seine-boats and two dories.

Q. How many men?—A. Twelve men to fish.

Q. You fished from what time to what time?—A. From the 26th day of July until about the 20th September.

Q. Until your vessel was cast away?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did your boats catch?—A. One hundred barrels.

Q. How far off from the shore have you been fishing in the boats this summer?—A. About three miles, in that vicinity. We have been off as far as five miles, and sometimes inshore.

Q. How many boats are there fishing out of Tracadie?—A. Nineteen, including ours.

Q. What size boats; how many men?—A. They averaged about four men, I should think.

Q. How did you happen to get your vessel stranded?—A. A gale of wind came up on the 21st. We parted both chains and went ashore.

Q. You hope to get your vessel off?—A. Yes; I think we shall.

Q. Now have you seen the mackerel vessels there this summer?—A. Yes; occasionally we have seen them pass up and down.

Q. What is the greatest number you have seen any one day?—A. I have seen as high as 30 sail.

Q. Do you know at all what luck they have fishing?—A. Well, I think the general average has been pretty poor.

Q. Tell all you know about that.—A. Well, the highest trip I have known or heard of is 350 barrels, and very few at that.

Q. What vessel got that?—A. I can't tell you that; but I can tell you of the George B. Loring that got 250 barrels. I can't tell the name of one that got 350 barrels.

Q. Do you know about the result of the fishing of any other vessels?—A. I was aboard the Wildfire six weeks ago. She had got 100 barrels and had been in the bay about a month; she had 21 men.

Q. Any others?—A. That is all I know.

Q. If you have any information about any other vessels, either succeeding or failing, you may state what you know.—A. Well, I heard that the mackerel fishing in the bay had been a failure, as near as I can hear.

Q. Were you in the bay last year?—A. Yes.

Q. At the same place?—A. Just about the same voyage; we were not fitted quite as well as we were this year.

Q. What did you do last year, buy or catch?—A. We came mostly to buy; we caught 20 barrels.

Q. With boats?—A. We had one dory and the vessel's boats.

Q. Has your experiment this year been successful?—A. No; it has been poor.

Q. Would it have been successful if you hadn't lost your vessel?—A. No; we would have lost money if we hadn't lost our vessel.

Q. What have been the average prices of mackerel this summer at Tracadie—I mean after it is cured. Give us the highest and the lowest prices you have known.—A. The highest sold for \$10.50, that is for 200 pounds of fish after they were cured.

Q. What is the lowest?—A. \$3.50.

Q. What is the average?—A. About \$7.00, I should judge.

Q. Now, you have been fishing for mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in former years a good many times I believe? What was the first year you were in the gulf?—A. The first year I was in a schooner called the Saline.

Q. What year?—A. '57, I think, as near as I can tell.

Q. You must have been a boy of 14?—A. Yes; that was when I first commenced.

Q. When were you first a skipper yourself?—A. I think in '64.

Q. How many trips have you made to the bay as skipper?—A. Two; last year and this year is all I have ever been master.

Q. When you were here before you have been as sharesman?—A. Yes.

Q. But you have been a skipper in mackerel vessels elsewhere?—A. Yes; I have been on our shore.

Q. What year did you say you were first a skipper?—A. '64 I think it was.

Q. I will just run rapidly through your fishing experience since that time. What was the first schooner of which you were in command?—A. The Eclipse.

Q. What did you do the first year?—A. We followed the George's fishing until along in July. Some time in the first of July. Then fitted for mackerel on the shore between Mount Desert and Cape Cod.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take off the shores of the United States that year?—A. Somewhere about 260 barrels I think.

Q. Take the next year, 1865?—A. We were in about the same business—the same voyage. We landed about the same number of barrels. Somewhere in that vicinity.

Q. When fishing off the United States coast did you make one trip or a number of trips?—A. We made a number of trips.

Q. What were you doing in 1866?—A. In 1866. I was in Bay Chaleurs or the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Q. You use two terms. Do you mean one and the same thing?—A. One is called the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the other the Bay Chaleurs. The fishermen call it Bay Chaleurs sometimes.

Q. It is the same thing you mean. The whole gulf goes by the name of Bay Chaleurs sometimes?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the Bay Chaleurs proper?—A. It is a small bay to the northward. The fishermen call the whole gulf Bay Chaleurs.

Q. What was the size of the vessel you were in in 1866?—A. About 140 tons.

Q. What was her name?—A.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did she take?—A. 500 barrels we landed.

Q. Did you go home with that one trip?—A. Yes; we were here all the season.

Q. She was a large vessel. How many hands did she have?—A. 20 men.

Q. Now, where were these mackerel caught?—A. They were caught at different places in the bay, at Bradley, Orphan, and Magdalen, and around Margaree and Port Hood, around there in the fall. Late in the fall we got up as far as that.

Q. Have you been in the gulf fishing for mackerel since that year?—A. Not until last year.

Q. How many years had you been there before 1864?—A. I had been here four seasons.

Q. Taking your entire fishing experience, I wish you would tell the Commission what was the principal ground on which you caught mackerel. What was the principal fishing ground?—A. Banks Bradley and Orphan, and the Magdalen Islands were our principal fishing ground.

Q. Now, to what extent have you fished within three miles of the shore?—A. Well, but very little. I don't recollect ever catching but very few fish inside of three miles until this year.

Q. When you have been in boats?—A. Yes.

Q. I wish you would explain to the Commission how the vessel-fishing is carried on, and how the boat-fishing is carried on, and what is the difference between them, as you understand?—A. Well, the vessel-fishing is more in deep water and offshore. They go searching after fish. In the boat-fishing, we lie and wait for the fish to come to us.

Q. Can the vessels get fish in the places where the boats usually fish?—A. Not to any extent.

Q. When the boats are fishing near shore?—A. No; never, when the boats are fishing near shore.

Q. When the boats are fishing near shore how do they take mackerel? Is it in large schools?—A. No; I think the mackerel all through the north shore, so far as I have seen, seem to be scattered and feed on bottom, and all the way we can get them is to anchor. When the vessels come in among us they never get anything at all. They have tried it this year two or three times right in among the boats, but never could do anything.

Q. Well, can the vessels catch mackerel enough to make a profitable voyage if they fish in the manner in which the boats do?—A. No, they cannot.

Q. What is the largest number of mackerel vessels you ever saw fishing together, that you recollect?—A. In one place?

Q. Yes.—A. I think I have seen 500 sail of vessels in Boston Bay in one fleet.

Q. What is the largest number you ever saw together in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Well, I think 250 sail is the largest.

Q. Where was that?—A. Around Port Hood and Margaree in the fall of the year, when they all collected there in October.

Q. What year was it?—A. I could not tell exactly, but I think that was 1866.

Q. Have you ever fished or been for fish to the Bay Chaleur, proper?—A. Into the bay? I have been there but I never caught any fish in the Bay Chaleur at all. I have been there once or twice.

Q. Have you fished in the bend of the island; that is, Prince Edward Island, in vessels?—A. I have tried. I have been in vessels that tried up the island, but never caught any mackerel to speak of in the bend.

Q. Is it safe or dangerous?—A. It is the most dangerous place I know of in the gulf.

Q. Why?—A. Such a deep bend and shoal water. It is impossible for a vessel to get out. After a wind has been three hours blowing it would be almost impossible for a vessel to get out.

Q. How is it with respect to taking refuge in the harbors?—A. The harbors are very dangerous to enter, except they get in before the breeze comes on or in the day time. They are not fit to enter in the night time in bad weather.

Q. Why?—A. They are barred harbors and shoal water.

Q. What do you mean by barred harbors?—A. A bar of land stretching across the mouth.

Q. Have you ever fished in the vicinity of Margaree?—A. I have.

Q. What time of the year?—A. October, I think.

Q. At what distance from the shore of the island have you fished in that vicinity?—A. I have fished all the way from three or four miles, but in sight of the land ten or fifteen miles off.

Q. Have you ever fished close inside of there?—A. No.

Q. Have you ever fished inside of three miles of the island?—A. I might have been in within three miles. I don't think I have caught any fish there.

Q. Have the mackerel been found this summer in schools?—A. No. I haven't seen a school of mackerel since I have been in the bay. No large body of mackerel I haven't seen.

Q. Can the vessels make a profitable catch of fish unless there is a large school?—A. No; I don't think they can.

Q. How do you manage in boats? How have you got your 100 barrels?—A. I have been out every morning when there was a chance at

anchor, and remained until eight or nine o'clock. The highest number of fish we have caught to a man has been 260.

Q. Two hundred and sixty mackerel would make how much more or less than a barrel?—A. The last we caught, 260 would make a barrel. The first we caught it would take nearly 300 to a barrel.

Q. How does the quality of the mackerel you have been taking this summer in boats range?—A. They range about one-third 3's, about one-third 2's, and one-third 1's.

Q. Pretty good mackerel?—A. No. I call them pretty poor.

Q. Is that a poor average? How does it compare with the mackerel you used to take at the Magdalen Islands formerly when vessel-fishing?—A. It was a good deal better than they have been this year.

Q. Have you sold these hundred barrels?—A. No; I only judge about the value; I don't know.

Q. How have the boats that fished about you been doing in comparison with you?—A. They seem to think they have done very well. They seem to be satisfied.

Q. Have they caught any more than you have?—A. No; I think we have caught more than the average.

Q. Explain how it is that they can be doing well while you regard yourselves as losing money?—A. They are under no expenses. They are farmers, part of them, and they go out fishing when it suits, so that it is nearly all gain to them. I am under a good deal of expense.

Q. Have you ever seen the boats fishing with the vessels in former years?—A. No, sir; very seldom.

Q. Have you chartered any schooners, Gloucester schooners, within one or two years?—A. No; I chartered my own last year to D. C. & H. Babson.

Q. What did you get for her charter?—A. One hundred and fifty dollars a month for four months, to go to Tracadie and buy and catch mackerel—about the same voyage as this year, only last year we went mostly to buy.

Q. How were you employed last year?—A. I was hired.

Q. On wages?—A. Yes.

Q. I suppose you have no objections to state them?—A. No; they paid me \$75 a month.

Q. To take charge of the vessel and twelve men?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you get anything but that?—A. Anything except that? No, sir; only \$150 a month for the vessel and \$75 a month for myself.

Q. How were the men paid?—A. Two were on shares, interested in the voyage, and others were hired from \$35 to \$15 a month.

Q. Are you speaking now of this year?—A. Last year.

Q. You only got ten barrels of mackerel last year. The result must have been unprofitable to the people who took the charter?—A. Twenty barrels we got, as near as I know; I don't know exactly. I was told then they had sunk between \$1,500 and \$1,600.

Q. When a vessel is fitted out for a mackerel-trip, with a dozen men on board or thereabouts, what is the average cost of provisions per day for the men?—A. About 45 cents.

Q. Do you mean for this year or last year?—A. I mean these last two or three years.

Q. How does that compare with what it was 7, or 8 or 10 years ago?—A. I should think it took 70 or 75 cents eight or nine years ago when things were high.

Q. Under the war prices?—A. Yes.

Q. In what depth of water do you catch mackerel?—A. From five to ten fathoms.

Q. Taking your experience of mackerel fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, how much value do you attach to the right to catch fish within three miles of the shore?—A. Mine is not any. I will never pursue the business again in a vessel.

Q. You never would pursue it again?—A. No; this is my first year's experience, and I don't want any more.

Q. Then, you are not employed this year?—A. No; I am on my own account.

By Mr. Weatherbe :

Q. Where did you keep your vessel?—A. This season?

Q. Yes.—A. In Tracadie Harbor.

Q. Where was she—on the beach?—A. No; about southwest from the mouth of the harbor.

Q. Tracadie is a dangerous place, is it not?—A. Well, the harbor, I think, is very good. If you go out, it is a dangerous place outside.

Q. It is a dangerous place inside, is it not? Was it not inside you were lost?—A. We were not lost.

Q. Then it is not a dangerous place inside?—A. Well, it is not dangerous, because the vessel is there, and there is no danger. None of us were lost at all.

Q. Is it a usual thing for a vessel to go ashore inside of a harbor?—A. Well, it is very seldom among our vessels there. There were ten boats on the beach besides myself.

Q. But do you know whether it is usual for vessels to go ashore inside? Has it ever been known before?—A. Yes; in 1853 a large fleet went ashore—American vessels.

Q. Inside of a harbor?—A. Yes.

Q. Not since that?—A. Not that I know of.

Q. Have you heard of any on that dangerous coast of the island since that large gale?—A. Yes; I heard of two the fifth day of last July; two Nova Scotia vessels were cast away at St. Peter's.

Q. In 1876?—A. Yes.

Q. Any others have you heard of?—A. No.

Q. Since the great gale?—A. No; I haven't heard of others.

Q. How many have been cast away on the Magdalens?—A. Of late years? That I could not tell.

Q. Is it a dangerous place?—A. I don't consider it as dangerous as the island, the north side.

Q. But you don't know anything about how many vessels have been cast away?—A. Well, I know from the experience I had there. I have had experience there, and I judge by that.

Q. I am instructed that vessels leave there in consequence of the dangers of the coast, that they leave there and come to the other shores, the mackerel-fishing vessels—is that correct?—A. I don't think it is. They leave there in the fall to follow the mackerel.

Q. I got it from a very truthful man, and I want to ask you whether it is so or not, that it is such a dangerous place that they leave it early and come to other coasts, to the Cape Breton coast, Sydney, St. Ann's, and Margaree?—A. I think they go to Margaree and Port Hood. Port Hood is the best harbor on the whole coast. That is the reason, I think, they go there.

Q. That is the reason they go there?—A. Well, the mackerel generally leave the Magdalens, and they follow the mackerel.

Q. At the time the stormy weather comes on they leave there?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you are not under the necessity of encountering the danger if you are only there in the summer months. You would not say, as a master mariner, that there was any danger on the island in the summer months?—A. Oh, there is some danger. You may have a gale.

Q. Well, that is true of this harbor here. I think there have been some vessels wrecked in this harbor, but as a master mariner, do you say that in the summer months it is a dangerous thing to fish in the bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes; I think it is a dangerous place for a vessel fishing in the summer, or any season.

Q. Yet there has not been a vessel lost except the two? Where were they lost?—A. At St. Peter's.

Q. That is not the bend of the island?—A. St. Peter's is not! It is as nearly in the bend as you can go, as far as I am informed.

Q. Then I am mistaken. Malpeque is the bend?—A. I would not be positive, but Tracadie is about 45 miles from East Point, and St. Peter's, I think, is 11 or 12 miles to the eastward of that.

Q. That is, it is nearer the point?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, that cannot be anything like as dangerous as the center?—

A. Well, that is nearly the center.

Q. Well, what time were these vessels lost that you speak of?—A. The 5th day of July.

Q. Well, the master must have been at fault?—A. Well, I may be at fault now.

Q. I didn't wish to say so at all?—A. Well, you judge from that.

Q. Were you there when those other vessels were lost?—A. I was in Tracadie the 5th day of July, when they went ashore.

Q. Was that in the harbor?—A. No; they were outside. I was in the harbor.

Q. It was in the night?—A. I could not tell whether it was in the night or day.

Q. You don't know how they came to be lost; you had no conversation with them?—A. No; I know they were cast away, that is all.

Q. You don't know anything about what was the motive for casting them away?—A. Well, the wind was the occasion of it.

Q. You considered it a dangerous gale, then, in July? A. It was a heavy breeze.

Q. Had you made harbor to save yourselves?—A. Yes; we made harbor that morning early.

Q. Well, that is what those others should have done. A little forethought would have saved them?—A. Perhaps they could not get there in season. I have been caught myself in gales of wind right near harbor, and had to go off.

Q. I cannot understand. Perhaps you will explain how you came to select Tracadie as a place for fishing. One would consider it was not the best place?—A. Well, I was there last year, and I thought by appearances there was a prospect of a very good year's work, and that I might do well. My vessel is not calculated for the fishing business, that is, for the mackerel business to go off shore, and that is the reason I went in boats instead of going in a vessel.

Q. Why didn't you go to the Magdalens or some better place?—A. Well, I don't know that that is better.

Q. I thought, according to your view, that it was?—A. It is at some seasons.

Q. Why didn't you go to Port Hood?—A. We don't generally fish at Port Hood until late in the fall.

Q. The boats fish there all summer; don't they?—A. I don't know. I never fished in boats till last year and this year.

Q. When you were about engaging in the enterprise of boat-fishing, did you inquire as to the boat-fishing in any other places?—A. No; I never made any inquiries at all.

Q. You made no inquiries as to the best places, but just simply took a fancy to select Tracadie?—A. Yes; I was there last year, that is the reason.

Q. Then in your view you were induced to believe it would be a success?—A. I thought last year it looked favorable.

Q. Don't you think you are taking rather too gloomy a view of the future?—A. The whole mackerel I have got, allowing my vessel was afloat, would not pay the bills.

Q. Even with that, that is only one year; what did you do when you were here before?—A. I had made one or two prosperous voyages, and I have made pretty poor ones, very poor.

Q. How many voyages have you made altogether, in round numbers?—A. Six or seven full seasons.

Q. You mean more than one trip a season?—A. No; never but one trip.

Q. Well, how many of these trips have been successful, do you consider?—A. Two were very successful.

Q. Were those two early in the period over which you fished?—A. One, we came early and staid late. The other one, we came in July and went home decently early, probably in September. I could not say exactly when, as it was some time ago.

Q. But I asked whether they were early in the period over which you fished; were they at the beginning of your fishing?—A. One was the third year. The other was the fourth time.

Q. Now, if I understand you correctly, you never fished within three miles much?—A. No.

Q. Once or twice you mentioned when you tried inshore?—A. Yes; but we never caught anything to speak of.

Q. You never tried more than once or twice?—A. I would not say once or twice, or three or four times.

Q. But very few times indeed?—A. Yes.

Q. Had you a license, do you recollect?—A. No; I could not tell that. Last year and this year I was master. The other years I was not master.

Q. Then you don't know; do you know whether there were cutters?—A. I have never been boarded by cutters in the bay in my life.

Q. During any of the years that you fished, was it forbidden?—A. Never that I knew of.

Q. You understood that you had a right to go in for fish?—A. I didn't know.

Q. A good many American fishermen, we have understood, have fished at Bradley and Orphan and the Magdalens. A certain number have always gone there. Some of them have done pretty well and others haven't, and yet they never tried inshore fishing?—A. Well, this year I have known vessels try inshore, and they haven't done anything to my knowledge amongst the boats.

Q. But you were making losing voyages before?—A. This year?

Q. No; before. You made seven voyages and lost money on five of them. But you never tried inshore?—A. Well, we tried and we spoke

to the boats and found there was nothing doing. When they did try they didn't do anything.

Q. But you didn't give it a successful trial, I should say. I may be wrong. Your general fishing was outside? Your idea of fishing was outside?—A. Yes; that is what we fitted for.

Q. Well, you failed year after year for five years and didn't try in-shore?—A. O, we tried it.

Q. I asked you how often, and you mentioned once or twice, or three or four times. Now I am speaking of a successful testing of it for a season. What I would like to hear would be some person who has tested it for a season. For instance, we have had vessel after vessel, and witness after witness; we have had a hundred vessels that ran in as close as they could get to the shore, and then drifted off until they got beyond three miles, and then came in again, and repeated the operation, continuing that course of fishing for a whole season. We have had hundreds of them.—A. I don't think I was ever near enough.

Q. For instance, at St. Anns, we had the evidence of the collector of customs, of vessels at St. Anns running in there and drifting off in the way I have described. You never tried that?—A. No; I never tried to follow it up.

Q. Perhaps you might try that next year. It might be a hint?—A. No; I don't think I shall. I have had two successive trips.

Q. You will make money out of these mackerel this year. What will you sell them for? You bought some at \$3.50?—A. No, I didn't.

Q. You didn't buy any this year?—A. No, we didn't buy any mackerel.

Q. It was last year?—A. We went there purposely to buy, but didn't buy anything.

Q. You were giving the price they were selling for?—A. Yes.

Q. They were selling for \$10.50 and \$3.50?—A. Yes.

Q. You would have made money if you had bought them?—A. I don't think so. I would sell mine now for \$10.50.

Q. There. But what will you sell them for at home?—A. I think \$7.50, \$11, and \$16, is the last quotation.

Q. Did you have any colonial fishermen, province fishermen, on board your vessel any time?—A. No. Do you mean, did we have any employed? No.

Q. That is unusual for an American vessel not to have a majority of provincial men on board?—A. Yes; I should judge about two-thirds.

Q. Well, does it not occur to you that that may be the reason you didn't succeed. You wanted a little of the provincial element on board?—A. No; I don't think we needed that at all.

Q. Well, we have had many instances where they have done well and made large catches. They understood where to catch fish. Have you ever heard of the practice of lee-bowing boats?—A. No. I have heard of lee-bowing vessels.

Q. You have tried to lee-bow vessels?—A. Yes; I have tried that.

Q. You consider that all right enough?—A. Yes. I should consider it fair.

Q. Well, it is just as fair to lee-bow a boat as a vessel?—A. I don't know how to lee-bow a boat.

Q. Would it not be just as fair? I don't ask you whether you did it or not?—A. I don't know whether it is as fair or not, because I don't know how.

Q. That would not have the slightest effect on its fairness, whether you know or not?—A. I don't know anything about that.

Q. Suppose I tell you how?—A. Well, then it would be fair enough.

Q. Would you consider it fair, then?—A. Yes, I would.

Q. You never tried it, and never saw it done, but you would consider it perfectly fair?—A. Yes; perfectly fair.

Q. You have lee-bowed vessels, and would do it again?—A. I have done that.

Q. That has been in the case of vessels out in deep water, where you don't succeed?—A. O, we do succeed sometimes.

Q. In five trips out of seven you have been unsuccessful. But in the instances we have had of lee-bowing boats, and going wherever they could get them, they have been successful, and made money?—A. Well, I haven't done that.

Q. Well, I only want to suggest that it may be done, and money made out of it. You say you never tried it, and never saw it done?—A. I never lee-bowed boats, and never knew how it could be done. That is all the trouble there.

Q. There are no fishing stages at Tracadie?—A. Yes.

Q. When were they put up there?—A. There are two stages with buildings on them, and two besides with no buildings.

Q. When were they put there?—A. Three of them were there last year, and one was put since.

Q. But not before that?—A. I don't know.

Q. It is rather a new place?—A. No; I don't think it is. I do not know. I could not tell you.

Q. Are they men who carry on fishing to a large extent themselves?—A. No; not very large.

Q. Well, there has never been any large dealer or fish-merchant that had stages there like they have at other places?—A. McDonald, of Georgetown, is interested in that one. I do not know how large it is. He has three boats.

Q. How many fishing stages are there at Rustico?—A. I could not tell. I never was in.

Q. You never made inquiries?—A. I have made some inquiries about Mr. Hall's boats. I know how many boats I have heard he has. He has a stage. I don't know how large it is.

Q. Then, at Tracadie, these boats from the island have done well?—A. They think they have.

Q. You think so, too?—A. Well, they think so.

Q. Well, the only reason you think you haven't is that you are under expenses?—A. I am under great expenses.

Q. What is the expense?—A. About \$600 a month, I should judge.

Q. You didn't buy any fish?—A. No.

Q. Last year you bought very few?—A. I didn't buy any.

Q. You went there to buy—why didn't you?—A. We could not buy to save much, to make anything.

Q. But you went there to buy?—A. I was hired. I had charge of the vessel, and my employers managed the buying.

Q. What did you do during the season?—A. Fished a little in boats.

Q. How long were you there?—A. From the 5th of July to the 6th of August, one month and one day.

Q. You weren't in there very long?—A. No.

Q. Did the boats do very well there?—A. Not in that month.

Q. They did after that, I am told?—A. Well, I am told they didn't do anything extra after that.

Q. In the fall they did well; they told us so themselves.—A. Well, I could not say for certain.

Q. Well, now, you must take a very gloomy view of affairs, because

we are informed this is the best year they have ever had except one.—
A. Well, if that is the case, why I need hardly go again. I had better give it up.

Q. We don't deny that, and I may disclose to you that that is our theory. Now is it a good year or not?—A. It has been a poor year for me, very poor.

Q. Had you made no inquiries about others?—A. I know about other boats.

Q. All along the coast they have a number of boats. Have you ever asked how many?—A. No; I never asked that question. I suppose it would be impossible almost to find out.

Q. No, you would find out very easily. You could find out by reading this evidence. You have never asked how they got on at other places?—A. I have asked boats four or five miles below my place, and I have asked them from Rustico, and they have done about the same as we have.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. What good would fishing stages at Tracadie do you?—A. No good.

Q. There are two or three of them where you are?—A. Four.

Q. You have never been to Rustico Harbor?—A. No; but I have been up as far as to meet the boats. We have been up along the coast right off amongst the boats, and we have met the Savage Harbor boats.

Q. Have you ever inquired of the Rustico boats?—A. Yes.

Q. What were you told about the quantity of the mackerel they were catching?—A. They were doing about the same as we did.

Q. Now, what were you told last year as to the success of the boats through the whole season?—A. Last year, as far as I can tell, it was a poor season.

Q. Who told you so?—A. Most every one. They will tell you so now. The people there will tell you so, the fishermen.

Q. What is lee-bowing a vessel, and why do you say you don't know what lee-bowing a boat is? Explain.—A. Well, a vessel we lee-bow under sail for mackerel, and drift with the wind; in lee-bowing we come under the vessel's lee and stop as near as we can under her lee-bow. Then we throw bait, and that bait gets underneath the other vessel and tolls off the mackerel; that is, sometimes it does and sometimes it does not; then we drift away from the other vessel with the mackerel. But the boats are at anchor, and spring up. There is no sail on the boats at all. I have never hove to at all.

Q. Why cannot a vessel lee-bow a boat at anchor?—A. Because the boat is at anchor, and the vessel is under sail.

Q. Explain why. I do not understand why you cannot lee-bow her.—A. Well, I might shoot up alongside, but I would drift away from her.

Q. How long would you be within a short distance of a boat at anchor?—A. I could not tell exactly, but we would drift away very fast. We drift two knots an hour in the vessel I am in.

Q. I don't understand why you could not draw the fish that the boats are fishing away.—A. I have seen that tried, and they could not do anything at all.

Q. Why not?—A. That I cannot say—why not. They didn't get the mackerel away.

Q. Were the boats fishing in a school of mackerel, or fishing for mackerel from the bottom?—A. From the bottom. They were scattered from a mile to a mile and a half apart.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. Were you there as late as the 22d of September ?—A. Yes.

Q. That was the day of the storm ?—A. Yes.

Q. Now I want to ask you, for a few days previously, a week or a fortnight previously, did you see any mackerel vessels along the coast ?—A. Yes, the day before the breeze I saw six go up the bight toward Cascumpeque and Malpeque, and that way.

Q. Well, taking the week or fortnight previously, how many would you say you have seen ?—A. I did not see a great many the last week or ten days we were there at all. The last day before the breeze I might have seen some passing and repassing, nothing to speak of. I suppose it was a month ago when I saw a large fleet.

Q. You did not go up along the coast to East Point the week previous to the 22d ? Did you go along toward East Point ?—A. No further than I went in a boat, sometimes five or six miles.

Q. I wanted to see whether you had seen the fleet that was at East Point at all ?—A. No ; I didn't see the East Point fleet at all.

No. 38.

PETER H. MILLS, of Deer Isle, in the State of Maine, farmer and fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot :

Question. Where is your place of residence ?—Answer. Deer Island.

Q. How long have you been living there ?—A. About 26 years.

Q. Where is Deer Island ?—A. In Penobscot Bay ; about 70 miles southward of Bangor.

Q. What has been your occupation ?—A. Fishing, farming, and some mechanical business.

Q. What has been, during 20 years, the chief occupation of the people of Deer Island ? Fishing ?—A. Yes, sir ; mackerel-fishing mostly.

Q. Well, in the 20 years of your experience has there been very much change in the character of the business ?—A. There has.

Q. How ?—A. It has depreciated.

Q. What was the average fleet of Deer Island when you knew it ?—A. I haven't any records, but from my judgment I should say perhaps 150 sail of vessel.

Q. About what tonnage ?—A. They would average 50 tons.

Q. What is the fleet now ?—A. There may be 25 sail of vessel, and there may not be so many.

Q. Where has the fleet fished ; in the gulf ?—A. Years past they have fished in the gulf.

Q. Where are they fishing now mostly ?—A. On the coast of the United States.

Q. Well, then, to what do you attribute the depreciation ; to the failure of the mackerel or of the profit in the business ?—A. There does not seem to be a profit in the business.

Q. In your 20 years' experience of Deer Island, has anybody realized a fortune ?—A. No ; not that I know of.

Q. You know the neighborhood of Deer Island well ? How far are you from Castine ?—A. 20 miles.

Q. Was there any time when that was a large fishing place ?—A. Yes.

Q. How is it now ?—A. It is dull, extremely dull.

Q. Can you tell what is the general character of the Maine fishing now, compared with what it was twenty years ago?—A. It is much depreciated.

Q. With your experience of the fishery for twenty years, what is the profit? Is it in the fishing, or in the handling of it afterwards?—A. O, well, it is in the handling of the fish, the principal profit.

Q. Do you know anything of the fishing about Prince Edward Island—the shore fishing?—A. Well, I have been there a few years.

Q. You say you were a farmer and shore fisher yourself, at home?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you familiar with the habits of the fishermen about Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes, I was.

Q. How far out did their boats catch fish when you knew them? What was the average run of their voyages?—A. Well, I never fished myself in small boats from Prince Edward Island, but I had intercourse with fishermen there. They told me they fished off twelve or fifteen miles.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Were you fishing at all in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. Many years?—A. Not a great many years.

Q. Were you in an island vessel, or an American vessel?—A. Our own island vessels—Deer Island.

Q. What years did you go to the gulf?—A. Well, sir, I only have the records of two years. I think I was there in 1853, and the year 1856; but the dates of my other years in the gulf have slipped my memory.

Q. When you speak of the island fishermen, and as to the distance at which they were accustomed to fish from the shore, you have reference to these years, twenty years ago?—A. No, sir, inside of that. I can't fix the date of the time I had intercourse with them.

Q. I should like you to try, because there is a little variance between what you say and the evidence we have. What was the last year you were there?—A. I haven't the date of the last year I was there.

Q. But you can tell us about what it was, surely? You remember 1853 and 1856?—A. I have the records for them; that is all. I don't trust my memory.

Q. Does your memory entirely fail you apart from the records?—A. No, sir, not entirely.

Q. Well, if it does not fail you entirely, perhaps you will tell me?—A. Well, I can't tell you that. I only have the dates of those two years. It would be impossible for me to tell you the last time.

Q. Well, the time before the last?—A. Well, I can't tell you that. I only have the dates of these two years.

Q. How many years were you there altogether?—A. That I don't know.

Q. What fishermen did you converse with?—A. The boat fishermen from the north side of Prince Edward Island.

Q. What part?—A. French Village, North Cape.

Q. That would be near Tignish?—A. Near about.

Q. Apart from what the fishermen told you would you tell this Commission as the result of what you saw that the boats were accustomed to fish about 10 or 12 miles? Would you venture to assert that as the best information you had from what you saw apart from what you have said the fishermen told you?—A. No; I would not assert that from my own experience, because I never took pains to consider the distance.

Q. I want you to tell the size of the boats they fished in about Tignish,

they were manned by two men, were they not?—A. From two to three I think they averaged.

Q. What kind of boats are they?—A. Large open boats manned by two or three men.

Q. Do you know the honorable Stanislaus Francois Poirier? He has been a leading man in that section and must have been when you were there?—A. No.

Q. I will just call your attention to his statement and ask you if it coincides with what you saw yourself when you were there. By the way, I want to draw a distinction between fishing for codfish or halibut and for mackerel. Do you mean that these boats fished off 10 miles fishing for mackerel, or that you were so informed?—A. Not all; principally.

Q. Perhaps there is no difference of opinion between you at all. I will read his statement from the evidence:

Q. As a general rule are these fishing-grounds good for mackerel?—A. They are very good.

Q. At what distance from the shore are the mackerel taken?—A. From the 20th June up through July and August until the 20th September the mackerel are all caught within two miles of the shore around the portion of the island to which we refer. I have been fishing for these 40 years in my own locality and I may safely say that I have never caught mackerel outside of two miles from the shore around there.

Q. They were all taken within two miles of the coast?—A. Yes.

Q. And your recollection extends over a period of 40 years?—A. Yes. I was born in 1823, and I began fishing when I was 12 or 14 years of age. I think I can safely say can speak from recollection for forty years back.

What do you say to that?—A. What is he speaking about—small boats?

Q. He is speaking of the boats that fish around Tignish. Would you venture, from what experience you gained when there, to contradict his statement in that respect?—A. No, sir; I would not venture to contradict his statement.

Q. When you speak of the fishing being very much depreciated during the past year, did you refer to the fisheries along the coast of Maine?—A. Yes.

Q. They are almost abandoned, are they not?—A. Well, very nearly so.

Q. Your island, I think, is very near the line between New Brunswick and the State of Maine?—A. No.

Q. How far from it?—A. Perhaps 240 miles.

Q. And you think it has been abandoned because you found there was no profit in the business?—A. Yes.

Q. The years you were in the gulf yourself, what vessel were you in?—A. The D. R. Proctor, of Deer Island, and the Jane Otis.

Q. Were you pretty successful?—A. Not very; we brought out small trips.

Q. Where did you fish?—A. Between Cape St. George and East Point, Prince Edward Island; between Port Hood and East Point; between East Point and the Magdalen Islands, up to the northward of the island, on those Banks, Bradley and Orphan.

Q. Did you try Bay Chaleurs at all?—A. No.

Q. Your fishing was at the Magdalens and along the north shore of Prince Edward Island, from East Point to the Cape Breton shore?—A. We didn't go around the Cape Breton shore, not down toward Margaree.

Q. To Port Hood?—A. Yes.

Q. And your catches were not very large?—A. No.

Q. Your experience was not very extensive?—A. Not very extensive in the gulf.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. I think you misunderstood a question of Mr. Davies. He asked you about the time you had been at Prince Edward Island. You told him you could not recollect the date, but you can say whether it was within six, eight, or ten years?—A. I haven't been there for fifteen years; I will venture that.

Q. Now, with regard to another question. You stated, as I understand, and as the question I put would lead me to understand, that the mackerel fishery of Deer Island has very much diminished. You understood Mr. Davies to apply to the mackerel fishery in the gulf. I would like to know whether, in reply to his question, you meant to say that the fisheries all along the coast of Maine have diminished very much?—A. They have; yes, sir.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. As regards the gulf, you have not been there for 15 or 16 years?—A. No; but our vessels are coming and going there.

(The witness, being recalled, said he desired to make an explanation with regard to a part of his evidence, and proceeded to say that in speaking of the diminution of the fishing on the coast of Maine he did not know anything about the depreciation of the fish in the water on the coast, but that he meant to state simply that the business had not been so profitable in catching them as formerly.)

By Mr. Davies:

Q. The vessels that have engaged in the business have diminished in number?—A. Yes.

Q. And the catches of the vessels that are engaged in the business, have they been as large as in former years?—A. No, sir; they have not.

No. 39.

WILLIAM H. McDONALD, of Gloucester, Mass., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot:

Question. You were born in St. John's, Newfoundland?—Answer. Yes.

Q. You live in Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. What business are you engaged in?—A. Cod-fishing a little, and herring-fishing in the winter.

Q. How long have you been cod-fishing as skipper?—A. Six years.

Q. You have been fishing on the Grand Bank all that time?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you take bait with you or purchase it?—A. I am two years taking bait from Newfoundland. In previous years I took it from home.

Q. How do the two systems compare together?—A. I know I have done nothing at all since I have gone in. I always got fish before.

Q. Then you have come to the conclusion you won't go in any longer?—A. No; I won't.

Q. What is the trouble?—A. We lose money by going in.

Q. Do you recollect what catch you made in the first four years when you used salt bait?—A. Yes. The first year we got about 3,700 quintals; the second year about 3,500; the third year 3,000; last year about 1,800, and this year about 1,400.

Q. Do you own your own vessels?—A. Yes; part of them.

Q. How do you account for the falling off in your catches? What was the matter?—A. We lost so much time going in.

Q. How many times did you go in for bait this year?—A. Six times.

Q. How much time did it take?—A. We lost about three months this summer.

Q. How were you delayed so much?—A. The bait was scarce.

Q. How long was the longest time?—A. About five weeks.

Q. And the shortest?—A. A week.

Q. Were you there these five weeks because you could not get bait, or were you detained from other causes?—A. We could not get bait. We were going around looking for it.

Q. Besides the expense of getting bait when you went into Newfoundland ports, did you pay light-dues?—A. Yes; here are the bills. (Hands in bills paid in 1877, viz: Light-dues, \$23.52; harbor-dues, \$2.00; water-rates, \$1.90; pilotage, \$22.50. Total, \$52.92.)

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Where do you reside?—A. At Gloucester.

Q. How long have you resided there?—A. Eight years.

Q. Previous to that you resided at St. John's, Newfoundland?—A. Yes.

Q. Six years you have been on the Grand Banks fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. What were you doing the other two years?—A. Mackereling in the bay.

Q. Up the gulf?—A. Yes, and down at Prince Edward Island.

Q. In what vessels?—A. William Carson and Harvey C. Mackey.

Q. You were fishing on the coast of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes, and round by Sydney and Cape Breton.

Q. Who was the master of the vessel?—A. John MacMullin.

Q. Did you do pretty well there?—A. We did decently well. We got 290 barrels.

Q. The first year?—A. In one trip.

Q. Did you make a second trip that year?—A. No.

Q. The second year, what did you get?—A. Two hundred and fifty barrels, more or less.

Q. You made only one trip?—A. Only one trip.

Q. You caught mackerel along the coast of Prince Edward Island and the coast of Cape Breton?—A. Yes; not within the limits. We caught none within three miles of the land.

Q. What limits?—A. We caught none within three miles of the land.

Q. Did you see any other vessels fishing there?—A. Yes, hundreds.

Q. Were they on the north or south side of the island?—A. On the north side.

Q. Off what harbors were they fishing?—A. We fished off Sidney and got most there, and off East Point and Souris. We fished all round there and at Georgetown Bank.

Q. You would run in and out again as occasion required?—A. Yes.

Q. As long as you found the mackerel, you would run in to land and out again?—A. We never ran in to land for mackerel.

Q. You went up and down the coast?—A. Yes. We never caught any mackerel inshore.

Q. What harbors did you enter for shelter?—A. Charlottetown, Georgetown, and Souris.

Q. Did you remain long in harbor at any time?—A. Sometimes four or five days.

Q. They are pretty good harbors?—A. Yes, good harbors. Georgetown and Charlottetown are good harbors.

Q. Is there any difficulty in entering them in case of a gale of wind?—A. No.

Q. Then for four years you became master, of what vessel?—A. Henry A. Johnson.

Q. Was that the first year you went to the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. Who was the owner of the vessel?—A. W. Parsons.

Q. You took your bait from where?—A. From home.

Q. From Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. What bait was it?—A. Salt pogies.

Q. How many voyages did you make that year?—A. Three.

Q. All for salted fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you use no fresh bait at all?—A. We caught squid on the Banks. There were plenty of squid on the Banks that year.

Q. Did you use any other fresh bait besides that squid?—A. We always used small halibut for bait.

Q. You made three voyages; did you keep a memorandum of the catch?—A. I never did.

Q. Are you quite sure of the sum total of your catch that year?—A. Yes.

Q. That you took 3,700 quintals in three voyages?—A. Yes.

Q. What was the size of the vessel?—A. 59 tons.

Q. The second year were you in the same vessel?—A. No; in the Carrie S. Dagle.

Q. How many voyages did you make?—A. Two.

Q. Did you use any salt bait?—A. We used all salt bait.

Q. Did you catch no fresh bait on the Banks?—A. We caught a trifling amount of squid.

Q. And the third year you were in the same vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you make any memorandum of the voyages those two years?—A. No; I did not.

Q. Are you clear that the second year you got 3,500 quintals, and the third year 3,000 quintals?—A. Yes. I got somewhere near 3,000 quintals the third trip.

Q. How many trips?—A. Two.

Q. And the fourth year what quantity did you catch?—A. Somewhere about 2,000 quintals.

Q. How many trips did you make that year?—A. Two.

Q. You used salt bait during those four years?—A. Yes.

Q. Your catch decreased during the four years you were using salt bait from 3,700 quintals to 2,000?—A. Yes.

Q. And what was the first year you went to the Banks using fresh bait?—A. 1876.

Q. Did you take any salt bait with you?—A. Yes; a year ago this spring I took ten barrels of salt bait, I think.

Q. Did you make up your first trip with salt bait?—A. No.

Q. How many trips did you make last year?—A. Two.

Q. Did you get any squid on the first trip on the Banks?—A. No.

Q. Did you get any small halibut or other bait?—A. We had small halibut; we always get them.

Q. Having small halibut last year on the first trip, how was it that you did not complete the trip there?—A. There was so much fresh bait coming on the Banks that the fish would not take salt bait.

Q. There was so large a quantity of fresh bait coming on the Banks, you found salt bait no good?—A. No good.

Q. There was a large number of vessels coming from the coast of Newfoundland with fresh bait?—A. Last year they mostly got bait there.

Q. All the vessels got fresh bait there last year?—A. I would not say all.

Q. How large was the fleet with which you were fishing on the Banks?—A. I could not tell you the number of the vessels; it is impossible to tell that.

Q. Do you remember the number of bankers that went from Gloucester?—A. I do not.

Q. You then went in to Newfoundland for bait?—A. Yes.

Q. And last year was the first time?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go?—A. To Fortune Bay.

Q. In what season of the year?—A. In June, about first of June.

Q. Did you ever try to get bait at ports nearer than Fortune Bay; at ports between Cape Race and Conception Bay?—A. It was no use, for you could not get it at any other place at that time of the year.

Q. Did you try at any other?—A. No.

Q. You went to Fortune Bay and got herring?—A. Yes.

Q. There was a great number of American vessels in Fortune Bay last spring, catching herring, I believe?—A. There were not many; I don't know that there was anybody but ourselves when we were there.

Q. You had no difficulty in getting herring?—A. No.

Q. How long did it take you to go in for bait, get herring at Fortune Bay and return to the Banks?—A. You cannot do it in less than twelve days.

Q. How long did it take you on that occasion?—A. About twelve days. I never did it in less than one week.

Q. I am now speaking of the time you went to Fortune Bay, the first time you went in, which was last year. How long did it take you to go from the Banks to Fortune Bay, get bait, and return to the Banks?—A. About twelve days.

Q. Are you clear about it?—A. I am not exactly positive. I did not keep a log. I never did it in less than one week, and I know I did not do it in that time then.

Q. Do I understand that the shortest time occupied in going from the Banks to Fortune Bay and back to the Banks would be one week?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you in last year any other time except this once?—A. Yes; I was in other parts of Newfoundland.

Q. What?—A. Cape Royal.

Q. For squid?—A. Yes.

Q. How long did it take you on that occasion to go in, get bait, and return to the Banks?—A. Two weeks that time.

Q. You were all that time at Cape Royal?—A. No; I was not there all the time. I was at a place called Torbay. We had to leave there and go back to Cape Royal.

Q. You went in Cape Royal first?—A. Yes.

Q. How long did you remain there?—A. I went in the morning and left in the evening.

Q. Then you went to Torbay?—A. To St. John's, to get money.

Q. Did you enter the port of St. John's?—A. Yes.

Q. Last year?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you pay light-dues there?—A. Yes.

Q. You went to Torbay?—A. Yes.

Q. And round to Cape Royal?—A. Yes.

Q. After getting your bait at Cape Royal, when you returned there, how long did it take you to get out of the Banks?—A. One day and night.

Q. One night going out?—A. Yes. I may not have got just to where I fished, but I got on the Banks.

Q. On the fishing-ground?—A. Not on the fishing-ground.

Q. The Banks are all fishing-grounds?—A. No. There are parts where you cannot get a fish.

Q. Are those the only two occasions you were into Newfoundland for fresh bait last year?—A. I was in three times.

Q. Where did you go the third time?—A. To Portugal Cove, Conception Bay.

Q. How long did it take you to get there?—A. I went there direct from home—from the States.

Q. That was your second trip?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you go in for bait—squid?—A. Yes.

Q. What time of the year?—A. About 12th September.

Q. You employed the people there to get squid for you immediately on your arrival?—A. Yes.

Q. And how long was it before they succeeded in supplying your wants?—A. It took me about two weeks then. I got on the Banks on the 16th September.

Q. With a full supply of bait?—A. Yes.

Q. You then got your trip completed—by what time?—A. We did not get anything at all to speak of. We got about 200 quintals.

Q. And you returned at what time?—A. We returned home about 7th November.

Q. And you were on the Banks from 16th September to 7th November?—A. Not exactly all that time. I was in at Newfoundland when coming home.

Q. At what time did you leave the Banks?—A. Eleventh October.

Q. You staid in Newfoundland from 11th October till when?—A. On 22d October, I think. I started for home.

Q. You completed your fishing for that season?—A. Yes.

Q. This year did you go direct from Gloucester to the Banks, or did you go to Newfoundland first for bait?—A. We went to Newfoundland, Fortune Bay, first for bait.

Q. At what time of the year?—A. We left home about 23d April, and got to Newfoundland about 1st May.

Q. What part of Fortune Bay did you go to for bait?—A. Long Island.

Q. Were there many vessels there at that time getting bait?—A. Three or four.

Q. Did you take a seine with you?—A. No.

Q. Were any other American vessels there with seines?—A. No American vessel ever had a seine there.

Q. I am informed that a large number of American vessels went there this spring and caught bait themselves.—A. They would not be allowed to put a seine in the water there; they would be chopped down.

Q. Were you ever chopped down?—A. I never had a seine there, and never knew an American vessel with a seine there.

Q. You have not seen them there?—A. No; and I have traded there all the time in the winter time.

Q. You have been there for herring in winter?—A. Yes; during 4 winters.

Q. That is, in the months of February and March?—A. Yes.

Q. That is, for frozen bait?—A. For frozen herring.

Q. Is frozen herring shipped in bulk or in barrels?—A. In bulk.

Q. You never heard of any being shipped in barrels?—A. No.

Q. Then if any one said that there were barrels used it would be incorrect?—A. Of course; it is not so in winter.

Q. Not in Fortune Bay?—A. No.

Q. You never heard of such a thing as a duty being charged on herring-barrels used for putting frozen herring in?—A. No; I never did.

Q. We had a witness here the other day who stated that on empty barrels used for putting herring in a duty was charged.—A. They do pay a duty on the barrels into which they put herring, but not frozen herring.

Q. You never heard of frozen herrings being put in barrels?—A. I have seen them put in barrels at Grand Manan, not at Newfoundland.

Q. Did you get your bait at Newfoundland soon after you went down?—A. No; there was quite a delay this spring before we got bait.

Q. You got it at Long Harbor?—A. Yes; it was very scarce. It was four or five days before we got bait.

Q. Before you could get the people to catch the bait for you?—A. Yes; there was very little there to catch; it was very scarce.

Q. Then you proceeded to the Banks; did you catch a good trip with that quantity of bait?—A. No.

Q. How much bait did you take with you?—A. About 45 barrels.

Q. How much did you pay for it?—A. \$62.

Q. You fish altogether with trawls, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. A great number of vessels were fishing round you in the same way with trawls?—A. Yes.

Q. The large quantity of fresh bait scattered on the fishing-grounds, I suppose, has a tendency to keep the fish well on the ground?—A. The Bank fish never go off the grounds and never leave the Banks. There is plenty of proof of that. The shore fish of Newfoundland would not be liked in the States.

Q. What is the difference between the shore and Bank fish?—A. In the shore fish the nape is black, and that would not do for our market.

Q. What is its color in the Bank fish?—A. White.

Q. Are they otherwise exactly alike?—A. No; they are not alike at all. What you get inshore are small fish.

Q. Have you ever fished at the western part of Newfoundland, round Fortune Bay and that portion of the coast?—A. No.

Q. Then you have not seen the large fish they take there?—A. Yes; I have.

Q. Have you ever fished off Cape St. Mary's?—A. Yes.

Q. Are not the fish caught there large fish?—A. They are large, but are not the same as the Bank fish. A cargo was caught there by one of the American schooners six years ago, but it was never sold. It was caught by one of Mr. Lowe's schooners.

Q. There has lately been some of the American vessels fishing at St. Mary's?—A. I have not seen any.

Q. The fish caught off Cape St. Mary's are not like the Bank fish?—A. No.

Q. Are the fish caught at parts of the coast further west like Bank fish?—A. I never fished further westward than Cape St. Mary's.

Q. You say there is a difference in Bank and shore fish in other respects than that one has a black nape and the other a white nape?—A. There is a difference in every way.

Q. In what other respect?—A. The shore fish is not nearly so thick, not nearly so fat, and has a black nape.

Q. Anything else?—A. No.

Q. They have each the same number of fins?—A. I suppose so. I never counted.

Q. But you are a great authority on codfish?—A. Yes; I know about codfish.

Q. You noticed the size and thickness of the fish and the color of the nape, and yet you cannot say how many fins they have?—A. No.

Q. Will you undertake to say that the Bank fish have not got a fin over and above the shore fish?—A. No.

Q. Upon getting out on the first trip to the Banks you said you did not complete your codfish voyage?—A. No.

Q. You came into Newfoundland again?—A. I came to Fortune Bay again.

Q. About what time was that?—A. About the 1st June.

Q. You got your herring, in how long?—A. It was just exactly two weeks till I got on the Banks again.

Q. Did you then complete your voyage?—A. No.

Q. Did you go in again?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go?—A. To Cape Royal.

Q. To any other place?—A. No.

Q. How long were you at Cape Royal?—A. Just one week going in and coming out again.

Q. Did you go in again?—A. Yes.

Q. When?—A. In July some time.

Q. Where did you go then?—A. To Cape Royal again.

Q. Did you go to any other places, or did you get bait there and go out again?—A. We went to the Bay of Bulls next time.

Q. Did you go to any other place besides the Bay of Bulls?—A. No.

Q. How long were you in there?—A. Something over one week.

Q. Were you in after that?—A. Yes.

Q. When?—A. In August.

Q. Where did you go?—A. To Saint John's first.

Q. And out again from there?—A. To Portugal Cove.

Q. How long were you there?—A. Over two weeks.

Q. Did you go in again?—A. I was in about the last of August.

Q. Where did you go then?—A. I could not tell you all the places. I went to Saint John's and other places.

Q. How long were you then?—A. Something over five weeks.

Q. Did you get bait?—A. We got some salt squid, no fresh squid.

Q. You returned to the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you complete your voyage at the Banks?—A. I am right from the Banks going home.

Q. What quantity have you got?—A. 1,500 quintals.

Q. Just now you said it was 1,400 quintals?—A. It is between 1,400 and 1,500 quintals. I cannot say exactly.

Q. Then you made one trip this year?—A. Yes.

Q. That is between 23d April, when you left Gloucester, and the present time?—A. Yes, one trip.

Q. Were you not talking a little at random when you said you had spent half your time in getting fresh bait?—A. I think I did spend half my time.

Q. I believe all American vessels leaving Gloucester in the spring go down to Fortune Bay, in the first place, to get bait?—A. Not all of them.

Q. The great majority?—A. A good many of them.

Q. On the way to the Banks?—A. Yes, I suppose so.

Q. And those which do not go into Newfoundland get their bait some-

where on the Nova Scotia coast?—A. I don't know exactly where. I suppose they get it somewhere round the shores on their own coast, or some other place.

Q. And you say that the greater number, in fact nearly all American vessels, went into the Newfoundland coast this year for bait?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. You say you are on your way home from the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you get into Halifax?—A. Last night.

Q. What brought you here; did you come for a harbor?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you been in the habit of going to Grand Manan for herring?—A. I never was there.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Do not a great number of American vessels anchor in Freshwater Bay instead of going into the Port of St. John's?—A. I don't know. I saw a couple anchored there this summer. I anchored in the Narrows myself, and was charged for anchoring.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. What were you charged?—A. Six dollars. I was fined.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. What were you fined for?—A. I was fined for anchoring in the Narrows. There was no wind, and we could not get in.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Were you not obstructing navigation, and was it not the harbor-master's boat which went out to you?—A. Yes.

Q. You were liable to be fined for obstructing navigation?—A. There were three vessels lying there. There was plenty of room for any other vessels to go in.

Q. And you were ordered out?—A. We went out.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. You spoke about going into Georgetown and Charlottetown Harbors?—A. Yes.

Q. They are at the southern side of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever been in the harbors on the north side?—A. No; I have been in no harbors except on the south side.

Q. Are those quiet harbors?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Were you in Fortune Bay in January when you went for frozen herring?—A. I think on the 2d of January.

No. 40.

WILLIAM A. DICKEY, of Belfast, Maine, fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. When did you begin to go fishing?—Answer. I commenced in 1858; I went as a hand, as sharesman.

Q. At that time were there many vessels from Belfast engaged in the fishing business?—A. Ten or twelve sail.

Q. Fishing for cod and mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. What has become of the mackerel trade and fishermen of Belfast?

—A. There are but two of us who fish for mackerel with vessels of any size; that is, excepting small vessels.

Q. Are your mackerel-men now mainly engaged in fishing on the American coast?—A. They have been for the last six years.

Q. You went into the bay-fishing in 1853. Do you know for how many barrels the vessel fitted?—A. The vessel fitted for 400 or 500 barrels.

Q. And you caught how many?—A. About 270 barrels, I think.

Q. Did you catch any fish inshore then?—A. I was a boy, a young fellow, and I don't remember particularly. We caught part of them inside the lines. We fished inshore and off, but the whole quantity we caught inshore I don't remember.

Q. In 1859 did you go fishing again?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you in the bay?—A. Yes, one trip, late.

Q. Do you recollect how many you caught?—A. From one hundred and forty to one hundred and fifty barrels.

Q. Were any of those caught inshore?—A. That year we fished altogether at Bank Orphan, or pretty much so. We may have caught a few inshore. I cannot say the quantity.

Q. From 1860 to 1865 where were you fishing?—A. For those five years I was skipper of the same vessel, fishing on our shores. I fished for cod one trip in the spring and afterwards on our shores.

Q. You made one trip in the early spring for cod?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go?—A. To Western Banks and Banquero.

Q. What kind of bait did you have?—A. Salt clams.

Q. No fresh bait?—A. No.

Q. How long were you generally on the Banks?—A. We generally left home 25th or 27th April and got back generally before 4th July.

Q. And then you went mackerel fishing on your own coast?—A. On our own shores.

Q. What part of the American shore did you fish on?—A. We fished from Mount Desert Rock to Cape Cod.

Q. With menhaden bait?—A. Yes; with salt bait.

Q. Do you come into port often?—A. We harbor occasionally when there is a wind.

Q. I mean do you land your fish?—A. Yes; we land them whenever we get a voyage; sometimes two or three times and sometimes not more than twice.

Q. You could go in often enough to get fresh pogies and menhaden if you wished?—A. We never use fresh bait for mackerel, but salt bait altogether.

Q. After 1865 did you go in the bay again?—A. I could not say whether the next time was in 1865 or 1866. I know it was the last year the treaty was on.

Q. You had a right then to go where you liked?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you catch any mackerel inshore?—A. We caught a few at Margaree and at Magdalen Islands that year. We fished some at Margaree.

Q. Did you make any attempt to fish inside the line?—A. At the Magdalen Islands there were no fish inside. We were out some distance.

Q. Did you know that fact by trying yourself or by reports, or by both?—A. We tried in and off shore.

Q. That year there was no fish inshore?—A. We did not get any inshore at Magdalen Islands. At Margaree we probably fished inshore, within two, three, or four miles.

Q. When did you next go to the bay?—A. I skipped one or two years. I am not certain but that I staid at home and went cod fishing a trip

and mackereling. The first year after the treaty was up I was at home. I am certain of that.

Q. You mean you went cod-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. What else did you catch?—A. I was catching menhaden for oil, I think, that year.

Q. Are there plenty of menhaden to be found on your coast?—A. Yes. Steamers get each from 25,000 to 26,000 barrels almost every year. I think there are 31 steamers this year.

Q. Where do they take the pogies. Is there a place to manufacture the oil near Portland?—A. There are several of them there, and at Round Point and Booth Bay.

Q. When did you next go into the bay?—A. 1867 or 1868, I don't know which; 1867, I think, but I could not be certain.

Q. What did you catch?—A. Mackerel.

Q. How many trips did you make?—A. Two trips; we landed one small trip and sent it home.

Q. What did you catch the first trip?—A. I think 190 or 200 barrels.

Q. What did you get the second trip?—A. About 70 barrels I think we carried home.

Q. Out of those 260 barrels, how much did you catch inshore?—A. We, perhaps, might have caught 40 barrels. We fished some inshore and some off shore. We had a license that year.

Q. Having a license, you tried inshore, did you?—A. Yes, we tried inshore; but the fishing was not as good inshore, and there was better fishing off shore; and we got the greater part of them off shore.

Q. Do you mean there were more fish off shore, or was it in regard to their fatness?—A. There were more off shore.

Q. You did not catch enough inshore to pay the license?—A. I don't remember whether we did or not.

Q. Were you master then?—A. Yes.

Q. You tried the inshore fishing?—A. Yes; we tried it when we were inshore.

Q. Take the next four years, where were you fishing?—A. I don't remember whether I was in the bay next year or not. In 1869 or 1870 I think I was in the bay.

Q. Did you have a license?—A. No, we had no license then.

Q. You had a license only one year?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you cod-fishing during the next four years at all?—A. No.

Q. Only catching mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. Generally, where did you catch your fish when you were in the bay?—A. We caught some at Magdalen Islands, and from Point Miscou to North Cape and Bank Bradley.

Q. During that period of time where did you find your largest and best fish?—A. We fished on what we call the West shore, between Point Escuminac and northward of North Cape, ten or twelve miles out. We did the best there, I think.

Q. During the whole of the four years, where did you find any fish inshore? Did you try inshore?—A. I was only two of those four years in the bay, and the other two I was on our shores; I think in 1869 and 1870 or 1868 and 1869 I was in the bay.

Q. During those two years, where did you find your best fishing—without regard to particular localities—inshore or out?—A. We found the best fishing off shore. We did not find any vessels inshore at all. We were in a new vessel, the cutters were there, and we did not try inshore at all. We fished at Magdalen Islands.

Q. Did you find satisfactory fishing?—We got a fair trip, though we

did not fill all our barrels. We got 215 barrels, I think, one trip, and 190 barrels the second trip.

Q. That is pretty good fishing?—A. Yes, good fishing.

Q. Since 1871 where have you been fishing?—A. I have been seining on our shores.

Q. At what parts of the American coast?—A. From Mount Desert Rock to Cape May, Delaware. We commence there in the spring and work eastward.

Q. Were you fishing inshore or out or both along the American coast?—A. Off shore and inshore.

Q. How many have you taken there?—A. We took all the way from 350 to 1,000 barrels. Last year we had about 1,000 barrels.

Q. You had good luck on the American coast?—A. Yes, we have had good fishing there for five or six years.

Q. How has it been this year?—A. There was good fishing early this year, in May, south. Since then there has been very little done.

Q. At what time did you come into the bay this year?—A. 10th August.

Q. Are you in Halifax with your vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. For a harbor?—A. We came into harbor last night.

Q. You did not come to Halifax as a witness?—A. No.

Q. Were you homeward bound when you made Halifax?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels have you got?—A. From 118 to 120 barrels.

Q. During all the time you have been cod-fishing, you say you have gone to the Banks in spring and to your own coast in summer; have you been in for fresh bait?—A. We did not used to go in for bait then. I have not been cod-fishing the last nine years or longer.

Q. While you were fishing you used salt bait altogether?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know anything about weir and pound fishing on the coast of Maine?—A. I never was engaged in weir or pound fishing.

Q. You have seen it?—A. I have seen a number of pounds.

Q. And heard about it?—A. I have heard there is a considerable quantity taken.

Q. You cannot give any account of it?—A. No.

By Mr. Doutre:

Q. How many times have you been in the bay?—A. About six or seven times.

Q. Six or seven different seasons or trips?—A. Different seasons.

Q. And sometimes you went two trips in one season?—A. We have landed and sent home a trip, but I have never been home and back on a second trip.

Q. Where did you land any trip?—A. We landed a trip the first year I was in the bay at Cascumpeque. That is about 19 years ago.

Q. How did those fish reach home?—A. They were shipped home by a vessel.

Q. Have you ever fished on the coast of Gaspé?—A. I never fished on the coast of Gaspé. I have been there twice.

Q. You never tried to fish there?—A. No.

Q. Why did you go there if you did not intend to fish?—A. We went into Gaspé from Bonaventure for water. We fished broad off on Bonaventure Bank, about southeast, 40 or 50 miles.

Q. Was the Gaspé coast nearest?—A. There was not much difference between that and North Cape, I think.

Q. Do you ever fish in Bay Chaleurs?—A. I never fished there, but I have laid inside of the point about Shippegan. We caught a few mackerel there one year.

Q. How far from the shore?—A. From two to five or six miles.

Q. Do you remember the number of barrels you caught there?—A. We caught one day off Shippegan, I think, 25 barrels.

Q. Did you ever fish in the Bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. Very little. I heaved to twice off Cascumpeque. I never liked the place to fish.

Q. Did you not find fish there?—A. Not many.

Q. How far from the coast were you when you tried?—A. We tried inside of two miles and from that to seven or eight miles off.

Q. Did you fish on the coast of Cape Breton?—A. Very little; a very little at Margaree.

Q. How far from Margaree were you when you fished?—A. Probably from one mile to four or five miles off.

Q. Is that a good place for mackerel?—A. It is a good place sometimes in the fall. It used to be some years ago.

Q. In what portion of the year did you fish there, fall or summer?—A. I fished there a little while in summer the year I was there.

Q. How many barrels did you catch there?—A. I might have caught 20 or 25 barrels there. I was probably there three or four or two or three days.

Q. You have fished at the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes; round the Magdalen Islands parts of two years.

Q. How far from the coast did you find the mackerel?—A. The years we were there we got them ten or twelve from the islands—the main body of the fish.

Q. None nearer?—A. Some we got within two or five miles, all the way from three to fifteen miles, but we fished principally ten or twelve miles off. That was in 1865.

Q. Where did you go to fish for cod?—A. We went on Western Banks and Banquero.

Q. Did you take your bait with you?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not buy any?—A. No; we carried salt clams when I went.

Q. How long ago is that?—A. I have not been for nine or ten years.

Q. Do you mean to say you never fished for mackerel otherwise than with salt bait?—A. No; we never use fresh bait as heave bait. We use mackerel to put on our jigs, but for trawl bait we use salt bait altogether.

Q. When you fish on your own coasts, do you fish with salt bait?—A. Yes; for mackerel we do.

Q. Is not fresh bait better?—A. No, I don't know that it is. I never used it very often; not for mackerel.

Q. At North Cape what quantity did you take within two or three miles of the shore?—A. We fished about 12 miles to the northward of North Cape.

Q. Was that the nearest point to North Cape you fished?—A. We have fished nearer than that. We have tried all the way from inshore to out, but the principal part of the fish we caught out to the north, except this year, when we fished pretty handy in.

Q. You have come in from the bay?—A. We have been in the bay this year.

Q. Where did you catch your fish?—A. This year we caught the principal part of our fish from Escuminac to Port Hood. We fished some from West Cape to North Cape; we caught a few fish at East Point, and a very few at Port Hood.

Q. How far from the shore?—A. We caught half, nearly half, I should

say, inside of two or three miles; some within one mile, and from that out to eight miles.

Q. You caught half of them within those distances from the shore?—
A. I should say that this year we got one-half our fish inside of two or three miles of the shore.

Q. How long did it take you to catch those 120 barrels?—A. We went through Canso on 10th of August, and have been fishing ever since.

Q. Did you ever try fishing round Canso?—A. We tried as we went. We tried off Port Hood a couple of days. At East Point we tried, and went from there to North Cape and tried there, and got a few mackerel, and we went from there to Escuminac and back again.

Q. Try to remember where you caught your fish this year, and tell the Commission exactly what proportion you took within three miles of the shore?—A. I think about one-half.

Q. Not more than one-half?—A. I think not more than one-half. Our best fishing was off Escuminac. We struck the fish when we were within sight of the top of the light, eight or ten miles out. We got fifty or sixty barrels off there the first week; we caught nearly all of these outside of three miles. We worked in, and the last few days we were in the bay we were inside of three miles. I think we took 30 or 40 barrels out of those 50 or 60 outside.

Q. How many men composed your crew?—A. Twelve.

Q. Was any British subject on board?—A. Yes; we had one.

Q. Did you leave him at home, or have you got him still with you?—
A. We took him from home, and we have him now.

Q. What is his name?—A. Lawrence Landerkin.

Q. Is he from Canso?—A. No; he belongs to Newfoundland.

Q. Where did you take him?—A. I shipped him in Portland.

Q. Did you see other American fishing-vessels while you were there?—
A. Yes; there have been quite a number.

Q. How many did you see there together?—A. We saw all the way from three to fifty-odd sail; American vessels and several English vessels.

Q. And they fished like you, inside, when they could find fish, and also outside?—A. They all fished together, inside and out.

Q. And they took about the same proportion, one-half of their catches inshore?—A. Yes; about the same.

Q. Do you think you did not take three-quarters of your catch inshore?—A. Not this year, or any other year.

Q. Other years what was the proportion?—A. I think we caught about three-quarters outside, and this year we caught fully one-half inside, or near about that. I kept no particular account of them, because it did not matter to me one way or the other.

Q. You say you saw about 50 sail fishing there?—A. There were about 50 sail one day, and the rest of the time 3, 5, or 8, along there.

Q. They have all taken tolerably good catches?—A. No; they have all done very slimly, or the greater part of them.

Q. You admit that you have not been very lucky?—A. We have done about an average of the fleet, I should say.

Q. And the other vessels have done about the same as you?—A. Some have got more and others have not got one-half or one-fourth. Some have got double what we did.

Q. And some, I suppose, three times what you did?—A. Some vessels which went in early have got double what I have; but some which went in when I did have not got more than half.

Q. Did you hear of any vessels having 300 or 400 barrels?—A. No; I have not heard of vessels having 400 barrels. I heard of a vessel having 290 barrels. She is a large vessel and had a crew of 17 men, and had been in the bay all summer.

Q. Do you know the schooner Lettie?—A. I know the schooner Lettie belonging to Charlottetown.

Q. Do you know Captain Macdonald?—A. No.

Q. Do you know how many barrels the Lettie caught?—A. No. I do not.

Q. Did you see her fishing with you?—A. I don't remember seeing her this year.

Q. Have you not heard from fishermen that she caught 500 barrels?—A. I have not heard anything about it.

Q. Have you seen any British vessels on the American coast fishing this year?—A. Yes.

Q. How many have you seen?—A. I did not see but one.

Q. Do you remember her name?—A. No. I recollect seeing one.

Q. Do you know the name of her captain?—A. No.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. This year, 1877, you think you have given a fair trial to inshore fishing?—A. Yes; we had a good trial of it, I think.

Q. You did your best with it?—A. Yes; we tried inshore.

Q. You caught from 118 to 120 barrels fishing inshore and outside?—A. Yes.

Q. And how many packed barrels will they make?—A. They will probably pack one hundred and seven or one hundred and eight.

Q. How much did the vessel fit for?—A. We only fitted for 200 barrels this fall trip.

Q. As a commercial and money matter, is that bad or good?—A. It is a poor trip.

Q. A losing one?—A. It is losing money.

Q. Will it be a pretty considerable loss?—A. For the time we were catching them, not much loss, but no money.

Q. It will not pay?—A. It will not pay. Fishing will not pay anywhere this year, I guess.

Q. Were there any places where there was reported to be good inshore fishing which you did not try?—A. The boats have done very well inshore, anchored, but we could not fish among them. The boats have done very well at Miminegash, Prince Edward Island, this year. They have done as well as they have done for some time. The boats at Cascumpeque have done very slimly this year, I have been told. The boats fish inshore to an anchor.

Q. Was there any place where vessels went inshore which was reported to you to have good fishing that you did not try?—A. I did not see or hear of any.

Q. Is there any place where vessels went where they have done well inshore?—A. I have not heard of it. The principal part of the fish this year has been caught inshore, as nigh as I can judge.

Q. Do you know by direct report or otherwise of any vessels fishing inshore or off shore that have done well this year?—A. Some vessels that went early got good, fair trips; 5 or 6 vessels did that went in the bay in July; but those are the only ones I have heard of. Nothing was done since we went in; the vessels did not do anything in August.

Q. You said, in answer to one of the counsel, that you did not like the bend of the island. Why is this the case?—A. I have not made a

practice of fishing there, any longer than with a good wind we could go from one end of it to the other, going or coming.

Q. What is the reason?—A. It is because it is a bad place, and I did not like to stop there. It is well enough, however, close to North Cape and East Point, where you can watch your chance to get round when there comes a northeaster.

By Mr. Doutre :

Q. I understand that your catch this year was an average one?—A. I think we got an average with the American fleet, as far as I have heard. Mr. Murray, of the custom-house at Canso, said that we had an average, or more than an average, with the American fleet.

Q. Do you not think that you came rather late fishing to, and have come rather early from the bay?—A. I did not see any prospect of catching anything when I left, and so I thought I would come home. Something may yet be done though.

Q. Is it not to your knowledge that the mackerel generally come in in abundance later than this date?—A. No; not of late years. I have not, during the last 5 or 6 years, heard of much being done late in the season in the bay.

Q. What is the quality of the mackerel which you have taken this year?—A. Well, they run rather poor; they are mostly 2s, and thin mackerel. They have not had much food; they are not fat.

Q. What proportion is number ones?—A. I do not think one-quarter, if that. They, however, may be so this year, since mackerel are scarce.

Q. What do you expect to get for number ones?—A. About \$16 or \$18. I hear that they are worth that, but I do not know.

Q. Have you not heard that No. 1 mess mackerel are bringing \$22?—A. We have no mess mackerel; we did not mess any; and we have very few fit for mess.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. Did you fish with seines or hand-lines?—A. We fished with hand-lines.

Q. Were many American vessels fishing with seines this year in the gulf?—A. I did not see any use them, though a number had seines. I have not seen a school in the bay.

Q. When you spoke of menhaden-fishing, you spoke of a number of steamers being employed in it?—A. Yes.

Q. How far from the coast do these steamers take menhaden?—A. They go sometimes 8 or 10 miles off, and sometimes inside of the islands and among the islands.

Q. Do they take menhaden with purse-seines?—A. Yes.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg :

Q. Do you generally seine for mackerel when they school?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you do so at any other time?—A. No.

No. 41.

ELVARADO GRAY, seaman and fisherman, of Brooksville, Me., was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn, and examined.

By Mr. Foster :

Question. You are a skipper of a Gloucester vessel?—Answer. Yes.

Q. What is the name of your vessel?—A. Plymouth Rock.

Q. How old are you?—A. Twenty-eight.

Q. How many years have you been skipper?—A. Eight years, or 9 seasons. I have been skipper since I was 19.

Q. Since you have been skipper you have been engaged in the Bank cod fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever make mackerel trips in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. Four.

Q. During what years?—A. In 1866 I was there for two trips.

Q. You were then very young?—A. Yes. I was not master at the time.

Q. What was the name of the schooner you were in that year?—A. The Reunion.

Q. What was her captain's name?—A. Harvey Conroy.

Q. Did you take the first trip home to Gloucester that year?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you get in the bay that year?—A. About 600 barrels.

Q. You have no means of telling the number accurately?—A. No; I could not say for a certainty.

Q. Being a boy you did not have an interest in this matter like a skipper?—A. That is very near the number—600 barrels. It is not it to a pound, but it is near enough.

Q. Where were they caught?—A. The biggest part was taken on Banks Bradley and Orphan.

Q. Were any of them caught within the 3-mile limit?—A. I do not remember of heaving to within three miles of land that year.

Q. When were you next in the gulf?—A. I would not say for certain but I think it was in the fall of 1870.

Q. What was the name of your schooner that year?—A. Henry L. Phillips.

Q. Were you skipper?—A. Yes.

Q. How long were you in the gulf?—A. We got in there sometime about the middle of September, I think, and were there till sometime in October.

Q. What did you catch?—A. Something like 60 barrels.

Q. What had you been doing during the previous part of the year?—A. Banking, on the Grand Banks.

Q. Where did you get these 60 barrels?—A. Scattered all over the bay. There were no fish in the bay that year.

Q. When were you again in the bay?—A. In 1872 I think on a fall trip.

Q. What was your schooner's name?—A. George Clark. I was captain.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. 70, I think.

Q. Where did you take them?—A. The bigger part we got at the Magdalen Islands and the rest scattered through the bay.

Q. When were you next there?—A. In 1873, in the George Clark, on a fall trip.

Q. What did you catch?—A. 90 barrels, I think. We caught the bigger part of them at the Magdalen Islands, and the rest scattered through the bay. While I was in the bay I will say that we never got a barrel of mackerel within three miles of land.

Q. The first year, when you made two trips, you were there for the season?—A. Yes.

Q. And the last three years you made fall trips?—A. Yes.

Q. After you had been cod-fishing elsewhere?—A. Yes.

Q. What have you done since 1873?—A. In 1874 and 1875 I was on our coast.

Q. And what have you been doing in 1876 and 1877?—A. Banking.

Q. Where?—A. At the Grand and Western Banks.

Q. What is the name of the vessel of which you are skipper now?—A. The Plymouth Rock.

Q. You were in the same vessel last year?—A. No, I was then in the schooner Knight Templar.

Q. How have you provided yourself with bait for Bank fishing last year and this year?—A. I took fresh bait from Gloucester this season in the spring. My first trip was made to Western Bank; I also used fresh bait last year.

Q. What did you take for bait?—A. Frozen herring, from Gloucester.

Q. Did you obtain any other bait?—A. Yes, we went to St. Andrew's Bay, on the American side, and baited the second time.

Q. Where is that?—A. About Eastport.

Q. What bait did you get there?—A. Fresh herring.

Q. What did you do after you made your trip to the Western Bank?—A. We went to Newfoundland direct from Gloucester then.

Q. You did not provide yourself with bait at home?—A. No, we went to Fortune Bay and bought herring, putting them in ice.

Q. How often have you been to Newfoundland to buy bait this year?—A. Four times.

Q. Have you ever caught any herring there?—A. No.

Q. Or caplin?—A. No.

Q. Have you ever obtained either save by purchase?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever get squid there?—A. Yes.

Q. How?—A. We bought them.

Q. Has there been any squid taken on your vessel?—A. Yes, when Banking.

Q. Under what circumstances?—A. It is like this: when we go to Newfoundland and bait is plentiful it pays us better to buy it, and then go on our trip, than to try and catch it ourselves, thus losing time, and when squid are scarce, we catch a few, and help to make up what we want so as to save time; that is our only object in catching them ourselves.

Q. Are your men at leisure to fish for squid?—A. No.

Q. What do they do at this time?—A. They have water to fill in, and ice to get; and as soon as the bait comes alongside, we have to use the men to hoist it on board.

Q. When do your men ever catch bait?—A. At nights.

Q. How many squid in all do you suppose your vessels ever jigged or took?—A. At the outside, 20 barrels in 2 seasons—last year and this year.

Q. How long does it take you to go in from the Banks to Newfoundland, obtain bait and return to your fishing grounds?—A. A fair average time would be about a week.

Q. What is the longest time?—A. Nine days, to my knowledge.

Q. And the shortest?—A. Five days, I think.

Q. What did your bait cost in Newfoundland this year?—A. The whole thing, port charges and all cost me about \$400 on the last trip.

Q. Did you have these bills, I now hand you, to pay?—A. Yes..

Q. What are they for?—A. This one, \$4.80, was for water rates. I cannot tell you what it is for, I am sure. We have to pay them whether we fill in with water or not. It is a government bill. It rates 5 cents a ton.

Q. What is the next for?—A. Light dues; it amounts to \$23.04.

Q. How much is that a ton?—A. 24 cents, on 96 tons.

Q. Pass right on to the next.—A. Well, the next is a harbor master's bill—for fees.

Q. What is it for?—A. I do not know unless it is for the trouble of anchoring in the harbor. It is a bill we have to pay in St. John's every time we anchor, and go out and in; it amounts to \$2.

Q. Pass right along to the next.—A. The next bill is for anchoring and clearing and so on.

Q. How much is it?—A. I do not see any amount here. I do not know what it is. I do not know but what it is included in the water rate. It is a government concern.

Q. It is not carried out?—A. No.

Q. I do not see any pilotage charge; how does that happen?—A. Well, the trouble there is, when they speak us, and they are sure to do that, because they lie right in the mouth of the harbor, and you cannot go in by them without they speak you—for they are right in the doorway—you are obliged to pay full pilotage whether you take them or not; and so we took one, of course.

Q. Is there a pilotage bill there?—A. No.

Q. How does that happen?—A. We had a pilot, but he took us in and ran us on Cod Rock, and so I did not pay him anything. I told him if he would pay me the damage done my vessel I would pay pilotage fees, and so as he did not pay for the damage done the vessel, I did not pay pilotage—hence I have not got any bill.

Q. Otherwise you would have paid pilotage fees?—A. Exactly so.

Q. The whole bills of the trip amounted to \$400?—A. Yes; port charges and all.

Q. What do you think as to the difference between fresh and salt bait?—A. Well, I think we would be just as well off if we had nothing to do with fresh bait; but in order to get a share of the fish now, I think that we have got to have fresh bait. But if all used salt bait, we could do just as well. We always used to get good trips with salt bait and shack before fresh bait was introduced.

Q. What was then used for salt bait?—A. Clams, and porgies, and herring and squid sometimes.

Q. Did you use to obtain squid on the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you do so now?—A. They are scattered and not so plentiful there as they used to be.

Q. Is the squid a fish whose presence can be regularly depended on, or is its presence uncertain and migratory?—A. Well, there are places where you are sure to get them on the Newfoundland coast.

Q. What about squid on the American coast?—A. I know they are found there.

Q. Whereabouts?—A. I have seen them around the coast of Maine.

Q. Are they found south of Cape Cod?—A. Yes. They come there sometimes in May, and are caught in weirs, &c.

Q. In great abundance?—A. I think not, but I do not know much about this.

Q. What proportion of the business of Gloucester is engaged in the cod fishery and what proportion in the mackerel fishery, as far as you are able to judge?—A. I should say that two-thirds are engaged in the Bank fishery and one-third in the mackerel and herring fisheries.

Q. What proportion does the herring bear, compared with the mackerel fishery?—A. One-half, I should think.

Q. Do they catch or buy herring?—A. So far as my knowledge goes,

they have always bought herring. I have never been on a herring trip, but I understand that this is the case.

Q. When you speak of one-sixth of the business of Gloucester being engaged in the mackerel fishery, do you refer to the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery?—A. I should say that is for the whole thing.

Q. Do you know about the mackerel fishery on the coast of the United States?—A. I did not think about it; for the last two or three years most of the mackerel have been caught on our own coast. You all know that as well as I do.

Q. You said that your average time spent in getting bait was 7 days?—A. About a week.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. You fished in the Reunion in 1866?—A. Yes.

Q. That is the first time you went fishing?—A. O, no; but that is the first time I was in the bay. I have fished since 1861, when I was 11 years old.

Q. Where did you then fish?—A. On the Grand Banks.

Q. You did very well in the bay in 1866?—A. Yes.

Q. Why did you not stick to the Reunion?—A. When it comes fall we make a change. Our mackerel season is up in the fall. I went two trips to the bay in her.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Do you know anything about the herring business at Grand Manan?—A. Yes; but very little.

Q. Have you been there?—A. Yes.

Q. When?—A. Last spring and this year; but I did not take any bait there. I took bait, however, last season at Bliss Island.

Q. Do you know of any catch of herrings being made by Americans in that vicinity?—A. No; there has never been one to my knowledge.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. Do you know where the Reunion went in 1867?—A. No; she had then changed masters.

Q. Who was she owned by?—A. William Henry Steele, then, I think.

Q. Of Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it the custom of Gloucester fishermen to remain in the employ of the same owners?—A. No; they change about.

Q. Constantly?—A. Yes.

Q. The rule is to change about?—A. I do not know about that, but they do so.

Q. What is the usual practice?—A. To make changes.

Q. Do they remain with the same owners year after year?—A. No.

Q. Do you know what the Reunion caught in 1867?—A. No.

Q. Did you then make any inquiries about her?—A. No.

Q. Do you not hear what catches vessels make?—A. We do pretty well when we attend to our own business.

Q. You are not able to state the catches of other vessels?—A. No.

Q. Or to give any information in this respect save for your own vessel?—A. No.

Q. Most of the fishermen would be likely to know only what their own vessels did?—A. They will do pretty well if they know that.

Q. Some fishermen frequent certain places in the bay and others other places?—A. Yes.

Q. And some always go to the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes; that is so.

Q. And others to the bend of the island?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you would not be able to tell what others did?—A. No.

Q. Have you ever met Charles W. Dunn, a fisherman, who has frequently fished in American vessels?—A. I have met a man named Peter Dunn, but I do not know any Charles Dunn.

Q. He deposes:

That in 1870, I was about two months and a half fishing in the gulf, in the Reunion, during which time we got four hundred and thirty barrels of mackerel. She was seventy-four tons and carried fifteen hands.

A. Yes; but I thought she was sold out in California before that time.

Q. You do not remember her fishing that year?—A. No; I know nothing about it at all.

Q. He continues:

That in 1871, I was in the Rambler for eight weeks, fishing in the gulf. We took out two hundred and eighty barrels of mackerel. We came into the gulf late that season. She was sixty-three tons, and that time carried thirteen hands.

That fully three-quarters of the fish taken in these schooners were taken close to the shore, or within three miles along this island, Miscou, Bay Chaleur, the Magdalens, and other places on the British coasts. Taking the season through, the inshore fishing is the best. I believe that it would not be at all worth while to fit out for this gulf if the vessels were not allowed to fish inshore.

Q. Had you a license when in the bay?—A. No.

Q. You know nothing about the cutters?—A. Yes; when I was there, in 1872, there were cutters in the bay. There were plenty of cutters, but no fish.

Q. When there were plenty of cutters in the bay there were no fish for Americans?—A. Yes; that is probable; but—

Q. Do you want to explain that any further?—A. Just so; but the Nova Scotian vessels had the same trouble, too.

Q. Were they kept out?—A. The Nova Scotian vessels did not do any better than our own vessels. That is between you and me.

Q. We want to know about it.—A. That is the idea, and the true thing.

Q. That is just what we want to come at and ascertain.—A. Yes; go on.

Q. If you have any information to give about it. Were they kept out of the 3-mile limit?—A. No.

Q. Were you?—A. Yes; we were.

Q. Constantly?—A. But there were no fish inshore or offshore.

Q. Were you kept constantly outside of the 3-mile limit?—A. Well, no; I could not say that we were constantly, because the cutters would not be in sight all the time, of course.

Q. What vessel were you in then?—A. The George Clark; year 1872.

Q. When the cutters were out of sight, would you steal inside of the 3-mile limit?—A. No; we would not.

Q. You did not try to go in?—A. No.

Q. You never fished inside of the 3-mile limit?—A. No.

Q. You never hove to inside of the three-mile limit?—A. No; I do not think that I ever did so in my life. Of course if there had been any fish inshore or any inducement for us to go in we would have done so.

Q. And you never tried inshore in your life?—A. I never did; no.

Q. You never heard of three-quarters of the fish being taken within the three-mile limit, as mentioned in C. W. Dunn's deposition?—A. Yes; I have heard tell of vessels fishing inshore.

Q. And making large catches?—A. No; I never heard that.

Q. If you had you would have gone in and tried?—A. I think it is likely I would if I knew that there were plenty of fish inshore.

Q. If you had ever heard evidence like that I mentioned, you would have gone in and given the inshore fishery a trial?—A. Well, I know a little more about that matter than the man who made that statement.

Q. Would you have done so or not?—A. Well, of course if there were fish inshore and we knew it and had a chance to catch them we probably would do so.

Q. If you heard a hundred men swear what I have mentioned, would you do so?—A. If I heard men swear to a lie and I knew it, that would be no temptation to me.

Q. But you would certainly be open to conviction?—A. O, yes.

Q. If a hundred men so swore, would you be induced to give it a trial?—A. That would depend on circumstances.

Q. If you had a license, how much persuasion would have induced you to give the inshore fishery one trial?—A. If I was going to fish inshore, I would have gone the right way about it and obtained a license.

Q. Do you not think you are a little prejudiced about this matter?—A. No.

Q. What prejudice have you against those shores of ours?—A. None.

Q. And you never once tried inshore?—A. No, not in the bay.

Q. So of course you cannot speak about this fishery from your own knowledge; you must have some sort of prejudice in this regard?—A. What is the use of our going to try for fish where we know there are no fish.

Q. Precisely, but you did not know; how did you find out?—A. Were not the boats fishing right along as we went along the shore, and we could see whether they were getting fish or not. The boats were strung all around the shore.

Q. Now you are telling us something.—A. Yes; I am glad of it.

Q. How many thousand boats fished inside the three-mile limit around Prince Edward Island?—A. I do not know, but I know that a great many boats fished around the coast.

Q. How much did these boats catch, on the average?—A. I do not know.

Q. Did you ever try to ascertain?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever make inquiries respecting this matter?—A. No.

Q. Have you any idea respecting it?—A. No.

Q. Do you know from personal observation what they caught?—A. No.

Q. And yet you never tried inshore?—A. Not within the three mile limit.

Q. The cutters never gave you any trouble?—A. No; their men only boarded us and told us that we were not allowed to fish within three miles of the shore.

Q. And you obeyed the order?—A. Yes.

Q. How far did you ever go inshore to fish?—A. Well, probably within five or six miles of land.

Q. Have you any preference as to fishing six miles off, over four miles off?—A. Well, of course there is no way for us to tell the exact distance.

Q. Have you any such preference?—A. Of course not.

Q. Is five miles off any better than four and a half miles for fishing purposes?—A. That does not amount to anything with me. We fish where we find fish. We catch them five miles offshore and ten miles off when the fish are there.

Q. If the fish were three and a half miles off shore, you would have no objection to catch them there?—A. Not in the least.

Q. Have you any choice as to distance?—A. No.

Q. You think that five miles off is better than three and a half miles for fishing?—A. It does not make any odds.

Q. You think there is no difference between them?—A. It does not make any odds where we find the fish.

Q. Do you think 5 miles off is a better distance to fish at than three and a half miles, as a usual thing?—A. I could not say.

Q. Or better than 6, 7, or 8 miles off?—A. I could not say.

Q. Or 10 miles off?—A. I do not know any limit to it; there is none, as far as I can see.

Q. You don't know of there being any difference between three and a half miles and 15 miles off for fishing?—A. No, we catch the fish out of sight of land sometimes, on Banks Orphan and Bradley.

Q. And sometimes you make bad voyages there?—A. The best voyage I ever made was out of sight of land.

Q. We have had a good many bad years and failures through fishing out of sight of land; we have heard of men failing year after year there, and yet they never tried to fish inshore, although they heard that there was good fishing inshore?—A. Well, I do not think it.

Q. Do you not think that you are mistaken in—A. O, no.

Q. What about?—A. The fishing.

Q. What about the fishing?—A. Well, what you were speaking about—the limit.

Q. You said you had no choice about the limit, and that three and a half miles offshore was as good for fishing as 15 miles off.—A. Yes; I don't see any difference.

Q. But this is what I was going to observe: you might be mistaken about it; I am quite sure that there is a mistake; you said you had done better outside the three-mile limit than—what?—A. Yes. When I was in the bay in 1866, and that was the only year I did anything at all in the bay.

Q. You did better outside than what?—A. In 1866 we caught all the mackerel I ever saw taken in the bay to amount to anything, and they were got offshore.

Q. You were in the bay in 1870, 1872, and 1873?—A. We were there in 1872 and 1873.

Q. In 1870 you were in the Henry L. Phillips as skipper?—A. Then I was there in 1870 and 1872.

Q. And 1873 also, for you were four years in the bay?—Well, all right.

Q. Besides 1866. Is that not correct?—A. Yes. Then I was five trips in the bay instead of four.

Q. And in 1870 you only caught 60 barrels?—A. I think so.

Q. And only 70 barrels in 1872?—A. I think so.

Q. And only 90 barrels in 1873?—A. Yes.

Q. It was an utter failure?—A. Pretty much so. That was in the fall, after we got home from the Banks.

Q. That was a failure?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you give us any earthly reason why you did not try inshore after 1870?—A. It was because there were no fish inshore.

Q. I thought you had done well enough and better outside?—A. You misunderstood me this time.

Q. Then you do not say that the fishing was better outside?—A.

There was no fishing in the bay in those years that amounted to anything inside or outside.

Q. But you told us you did not know anything about anybody's catches except your own?—A. Yes.

Q. And you did not ask the men in the boats or make the slightest inquiry about what was caught inshore?—A. How do you know?

Q. You told us you made no inquiries of what the boats did.—A. Excuse me, I do not think I told you any such thing. You asked me how I knew, and I told you I could see the boats fishing around the shore.

Q. I asked you if from personal observation you could tell what they caught, and you said you had enough to mind your own business. Have you made any mistake? Explain.—A. All I came here for was to give a fair account of what I know about the fisheries—and if you understood it as I do you would understand what I mean—and that is what I am doing. I have no prejudice in this matter. When we were in the bay for mackerel it was easy enough for us to find out whether there were any mackerel inshore or offshore. Plenty of vessels and boats were trying, and if there were no mackerel along the coast it is not likely that without any inducement we would make ourselves liable for seizure. It is easy enough to discover whether the fish are inshore or not by running along it and looking at the boats. We can tell whether a man is catching fish or not by looking at him without asking a question; and by running along the coast and looking at the boats we can see for ourselves.

Q. Did you ever make any inquiries as to the catch of the boats during the season?—A. No.

Q. Did you make any inquiries whatever of the boatmen with respect to the boat-fisheries?—A. Well, I have talked the matter over; while in the harbor I have seen men whom I have asked if any of the boats were doing anything, or had done anything round the shore, and the like of that, you know.

Q. In which harbor did you do this?—A. Well, in Port Hood.

Q. Whom did you ask?—A. Now, you have got me. I don't know one boat-fisherman from another.

Q. How often did you so inquire in Port Hood, or anywhere else?—A. Perhaps I might have inquired once or twice, or it might have been half a dozen times, I could not say which.

Q. Did you inquire in Port Hood as to what the average catch of the boats was, or how they had done during the season?—A. No; I never asked, save as to whether they had done anything along the shore.

Q. During the season?—A. No; but at that time—that day or that week. I would ask if they had been doing anything inshore.

Q. That was after their fishing was over. You were not there till the fall?—A. Yes.

Q. Then I suppose you found out that their fishery was over for the season?—A. Do they not get mackerel on shore in the fall as well as in the summer?

Q. What did you find out from them?—A. Well, the answer I got from them was that the boats were doing nothing.

Q. They were not then fishing at all?—A. Well, they were trying, it seems.

Q. What is the fishing season for the boats?—A. Well, I do not think that it belongs to me to answer that question.

Q. How often did you find out that the boats were doing nothing, and during what months?—A. Well, it was, say, in October that I made such inquiry.

Q. Were you on your way home in October?—A. No.

Q. Had you then just come into the bay?—A. I came in some time in September.

Q. How long did you wait there?—A. We generally left the bay about the middle of October. We used to do so.

Q. At what time in October did you make such inquiries?—A. Perhaps the first or perhaps the last of September.

Q. And you found out that the boats were doing nothing?—A. They said they were not.

Q. Then you did not try there?—A. No, not in there.

Q. Was that the reason why you did not try in there?—A. Partly; that might have been partly the reason.

Q. Did you ask what the boats had done, or usually did?—A. No.

Q. You then only made inquiry as to what the boat-fishers were doing that day or that week, as the case might be?—A. Yes.

Q. How did you learn that the shore fisheries were useless and worthless?—A. From what we could hear.

Q. What did you hear?—A. What you are talking about don't amount to anything as I can see. If we were in Port Hood Harbor and wanted to know whether there was any fishing round about there or not, we would see other skippers, &c., and find out in a very short time whether they had done anything off shore or on, and if there were no fish there we would go to what we considered the most likely place at which we could get them.

Q. I understood you to say you did not make inquiries of any other vessels, and that to mind your own business was as much as you could do. Then you did inquire what other vessels had caught?—A. Yes; naturally so.

Q. And did you find out what they caught?—A. No; I do not think it.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Are you part owner of the vessel of which you are now captain?—A. No.

Q. Were you part owner of the Knight Templar?—A. No.

Q. You fished on the Grand Banks from 1861 to 1866?—A. Yes.

Q. You were a hand then?—A. Yes.

Q. You have been on the Grand Banks during the last two years?—A. Yes.

Q. And this is the extent of your experience in that fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. How many men are on board of your present vessel?—A. Fourteen, all told.

Q. In the spring, when the vessel is fitted out, do each of these men get a supply of articles to leave with their families—an advance?—A. I think so. I think that the firms supply them with outfits.

Q. The owners of the vessel supply them with a sufficiency for their families during their absence?—A. I think so, but I am not sure about it. I know that as a general thing the families draw on the men.

Q. During their absence, their wives or families get what they require?—A. Anything in reason, of course. I understand so.

Q. Is the ordinary cash price or a large profit charged for these articles?—A. I have never been a member of such a firm; but I think they get enough out of the business to run it of course—a fair profit.

Q. The firms do not charge the ordinary cash price in this relation?—A. Well, they ought not to; they are not going to get cash; I think they make enough to get a living out of the business.

Q. You know that they do charge a long profit?—A. No; I do not

think that they do; but I think that they charge profit enough to make themselves whole, taking one year with another.

Q. Is their percentage 30 or 40 per cent. above the cash price?—A. It is 20 or 25 per cent., I think, over and above it.

Q. Is not a greater price than the ordinary cash price charged for the articles required for the fitting out of a vessel?—A. No, I do not think so.

Q. Do you know whether this is so or not?—A. I have been part owner of 3 vessels, and for outfits from spring to the fall we expected to pay probably 15 per cent. over and above the cash price in consideration for the delay.

Q. Then the supplier charges 15 per cent. over and above the cash price for articles supplied?—A. Yes; something like that; he has got to have it for the use of his money; such difference is 15 or 20 per cent., or somewhere along there; I could not say exactly what it is.

Q. What would it cost to pack and cure a barrel of mackerel for market?—A. I am not prepared to answer that question.

Q. Would \$1 pay all such expenses?—A. I think not; the barrel itself is worth somewhere about a dollar; I think they charge \$2 for packing a barrel of mackerel—for barrel and all.

Q. That leaves a handsome profit to the packer; something like 50 or 60 cents?—A. Yes, about that.

Q. What does it cost to cure a quintal of Bank codfish?—A. I could not state such cost correctly; we bring our fish in cured in quintals, and weigh them from the hatch and sell them.

Q. To the owners of the vessels?—A. Sometimes, and sometimes to others.

Q. But, as a general thing, the owner of the vessel takes the voyage as soon as the vessel arrives?—A. Yes.

Q. The fish is weighed out, and you are credited with a certain price for them?—A. Yes.

Q. What does it cost to cure for market dried codfish?—A. I think that at Beverly they charge 25 cents a quintal for making the fish after it comes from the hatch.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Salt included?—A. They do not use any salt there; but in Gloucester they do.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Is there any other expense?—A. Yes, if the fish are boxed up for market.

Q. Is there not an arrangement made among the vessel-owners and suppliers for the Bank fishery as to the price which they will credit the fishermen for their fish?—A. I think so.

Q. So that immediately after a vessel comes in with a cargo the price to be credited is known from such previous arrangement among the merchants?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the difference between the prices allowed by the merchants and the market-price for dried codfish?—A. I cannot say.

Q. Does not the owner of the vessel make a profit of something like \$1 a quintal upon the fish when cured and ready for market?—A. I think they calculate to make seventy-five cents or a dollar; but they do not always obtain it.

Q. To what place did you go from Gloucester last year in the Knight Templar?—A. To the Western Bank first.

Q. Had you fresh bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you take it from Gloucester?—A. No.

Q. Where did you get it?—A. At Bliss Island, N. B.

Q. Did you go into any Dominion or Newfoundland ports for bait last year?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go?—A. Into Hermitage Bay, Newfoundland.

Q. When were you there?—A. The first of May.

Q. Was that after you had used up the bait you had taken from Bliss Island?—A. Yes; I took that bait to Western Bank, and afterwards went to Hermitage Bay and obtained herring.

Q. And you then proceeded to the Grand Bank?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you buy your bait there?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you go at any other time last year to Newfoundland ports for bait?—A. Yes.

Q. When?—A. I was at St. John's about the 1st of August, on my second trip.

Q. You had been in the mean time to Gloucester?—A. We went to Gloucester on the 19th of June with our first trip.

Q. What did you take on your first voyage?—A. 169,000 pounds.

Q. And you proceeded direct from Gloucester to St. John's?—A. We went to Canso; we could not get bait there, and then we went to St. Pierre Island. I bought salt bait there and went on the Bank with it, reaching the Bank on the 21st of July.

Q. You afterward went for bait to the Newfoundland coast?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you leave the Bank to do so?—A. I was on the Bank 10 days, leaving it about the 2d of August. I arrived in Newfoundland somewhere about the 3d or 4th of August.

Q. Is your memory distinct regarding the days?—A. Very nearly.

Q. You got bait in St. John's and then returned to the Bank?—A. No. I went in there to get ice and money.

Q. Money—for what purpose?—A. To buy bait and ice.

Q. Did you require to get water there?—A. No. We might at one time get ice in St. John's, and not bait, going to some other port for squid.

Q. Did you not then go to some other port for water and other articles?—A. When we used to go on long trips we took water enough for them, but now that we calculate to go in for fresh bait we do not take as much water with us, but fill up when we go in.

Q. You say your port charges and all at St. John's amounted to \$400?—A. Yes, about that, for my last trip.

Q. Have you any account of it?—A. Not here, but I could produce it.

Q. You have given us items amounting to \$29.84?—A. That is for port charges alone. I bought bait and ice besides.

Q. Were not several sums advanced to the crew in St. John's?—A. No.

Q. Do you never so advance money in port?—A. Sometimes we let them have a little money.

Q. Does not a great portion of this \$400 consist of advances made to the crew?—A. No; it consists of what was paid for port-charges, bait, and ice. Our other expenses are not included in it. We do other trading around the coast.

Q. What other trading?—A. Suppose we want to buy anything for the vessel, such as a barrel of flour, we do so; but such expenses are not included in the \$400.

Q. What articles did you buy there on this occasion?—A. I could not mention them all. I let the crew this year have a little money, and I bought some things myself, clothing, &c.

Q. Can you give us the particulars as to what you bought for the vessel?—A. I bought some rigging, some baskets for the handling of bait, and so on. I suppose you do not expect me to mention every article in detail. We never go in without spending some money.

Q. What did you pay for bait on this occasion out of this \$400?—A. I could not tell you exactly, because we have to pay different prices for it. We may get bait for \$12 at one time, and at another time it may cost us \$100.

Q. Have you ever paid \$100 for bait on one trip?—A. I think I have for bait and ice, and I do not know but more.

Q. What is the highest amount which you ever paid for bait alone on one trip?—A. Sixty-eight dollars, I think, for squid.

Q. And what is the lowest amount?—A. Twelve dollars and fifty cents for caplin.

Q. What do you pay for ice?—A. Different prices; they asked us \$12 a ton this year.

Q. How many tons of ice do you take on one trip?—A. Six.

Q. How much do you pay for ice on a trip?—A. Twelve dollars a ton, in an ice country too.

Q. When did you pay this?—A. This year, to a Dutchman there. I don't know his name. It was Vamburgh, or what's his name, that keeps a confectionery shop?

Q. Lunburgh?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you mean to swear that you paid \$12 a ton for ice?—A. Yes.

Q. How many tons did you get on this trip this year?—A. Five tons, I think.

Q. Are you clear about this?—A. Yes; I took ice there last year.

Q. That is for one baiting?—A. Yes.

Q. That makes \$60 for ice, and, with \$68 for bait, this makes \$128; and adding to this sum \$29.84, we have \$157 for ice, bait, and port-charges. How is the difference between this amount and \$400 made up?—A. We baited four times.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Does this \$400 cover more than one trip?—A. It covers the four baitings. This was for my last voyage.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Between what dates did you bait?—A. Between the 1st of June and the last of August.

Q. You went in four times to St. John's?—A. No.

Q. But in to the coast?—A. Yes.

Q. If you had not got that bait at Newfoundland, you must have obtained it somewhere?—A. We might have taken salt bait.

Q. It would have cost more than fresh bait, would it not?—A. I could not say as to that.

Q. What do you pay per barrel for salt bait?—A. At Gloucester it costs, I guess, \$4 a barrel.

Q. And herrings in Newfoundland cost \$1 a barrel?—A. Yes.

Q. Would you require to buy ice, &c., in Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. And you would have to go a considerably greater distance from the Banks to Gloucester for these articles than to Newfoundland?—A. Yes.

Q. Then the cost of getting bait in Newfoundland is considerably less than it would be in Gloucester?—A. I think not.

Q. How is that?—A. If we are going to take bait from Gloucester, we would take probably 10 or 12 or 15 barrels, and the rest we would

pick up on the Banks. If we were going to have salt bait, we would catch birds and porpoises, and get shack and mix it with them, and that would do us for the season.

Q. Does your getting fresh bait prevent you getting shack on the Banks?—A. Well, we consider fresh bait to be better than salt bait and shack. We have ice-houses and all that kind of thing, and we do not spend any time in looking after shack or in picking it up.

Q. It must take you some time to get it on the Banks?—A. Yes, of course; but when we have fresh bait we do not occupy any time in getting that at all. We do not then bother with it.

Q. What have you on your vessel in the harbor now?—A. About 10,000 pounds of codfish, caught within a fortnight.

Q. Where?—A. Just east of what is called Green Island, near Portland.

Q. You have not been in Newfoundland for bait for this trip?—A. No.

Q. Did you go there while on your former voyage this year?—A. Yes; four times.

Q. How many times did you go to Newfoundland for bait last year?—A. Three times.

Q. What was the longest time between the time you left the Banks till you returned to them, that you have ever consumed in obtaining bait there?—A. Nine days.

Q. And five days is the shortest time you ever so occupied?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever observed the lantz on the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. During what months?—A. It is found there during all the months. I think it comes there in the last of June, and it is to be seen there in July and August—different schools are met with; the spring school is large and the August school small.

Q. Have you ever observed it there afterward?—A. I think it is there in September, and it is found there in October; I have seen them there in the last of the fall.

Q. Are the caplin found there?—A. Yes, about the Virgin Rocks and the southern part of the Grand Banks; I have seen them there about the first of July and the last of June.

Q. Have you noticed how long they continue on the Banks?—A. I think they stop there about a fortnight.

Q. In what depth of water have you there seen caplin?—A. In four or five fathoms.

Q. Is that the deepest water in which you have seen them there?—A. I have seen them in 40 fathoms; the codfish drive them right on to the surface of the water.

Q. You have always fished with trawls?—A. I have also fished with hand-lines; I have fished with trawls during the last two years. We used hand-lines altogether on my first voyage.

Q. Are you in the habit of taking up much seaweed on your trawls?—A. No; I do not know anything about that.

Q. You have not seen this happen?—A. No.

Q. Do you know as a matter of fact that seaweed is often brought up on the Banks?—A. I never knew of it.

Q. Have you taken the trouble at any time to examine the stomachs of codfish?—A. Yes.

Q. And have you found any small shell-fish in their stomachs?—Yes, plenty of them.

Q. Does that occur at all times during the fishing season?—A. Yes, more or less.

Q. What is the food which you have principally found in their stom-

achs on the Banks?—A. Caplin and lantz, and what we call Bank clams and crabs.

Q. Have you fished for cod on Western Banks, Grand Banks, and George's Bank?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you observed any difference between the cod on these several Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you describe it?—A. Yes. The Western Bank cod are not nearly so large as the Grand Bank cod; there is more of a black nape on the former than on the latter, and the former are not so well fed, and they are very watery and slim. The Grand Bank cod are the largest fish, and they resemble each other more as to quality. They are large, white naped, and well fed—better fed than the Western Bank cod. The latter are small and black, and they are thinner than the others.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. What do you mean by black naped?—A. The nape is the belly part—it is a little thin skin over the belly of the fish.

Q. Your family does not have to get advances in your business?—A. No, and I am not posted much in that line.

No. 42.

FRIDAY, October 5, 1877.

The Conference met.

ROBERT H. HULBERT, fisherman, of Gloucester, was called, on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. How old are you?—Answer. Thirty-five.

Q. Where were you born?—A. In Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Q. You have been a fisherman and captain of fishing and trading vessels for some years?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you first fish for mackerel in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence?—A. In 1861, I think.

Q. In what vessel were you then?—A. The Roger Williams.

Q. What was the name of her captain?—A. Lane.

Q. How many fish did you take?—A. Two hundred and sixty barrels, I believe, but I would not be certain.

Q. Have you any means of refreshing your memory as to dates and catches?—A. No.

Q. You are now pilot on the Speedwell?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you catch your fish the first year you were in the gulf?—A. Principally at the Magdalen Islands. The last we caught were taken near Fisherman's Bank, between Cape George and Prince Edward Island.

Q. Were any portion taken within 3 miles of the shore?—A. I could not say; but probably not more than one-eighth were so caught, as I have found this to be the case on different trips made since.

Q. What were you doing from 1862 to 1865?—A. I was engaged in different kinds of fishing, but mostly in cod-fishing. I sometimes fished for mackerel on our own coast.

Q. When did you make your second mackerel trip to the gulf?—A. I cannot be certain as to the year, because it was some time afterwards.

Q. What was the name of your vessel?—A. The Pocumtuc, I think.

Q. Who was her captain?—A. George H. Hurlbert, my brother.

Q. You cannot fix that year accurately?—A. No.

Q. What was your catch?—A. About 180 barrels.

Q. Where were they taken ?—A. At the Magdalen Islands principally. Some were caught near Margaree Island, Cape Breton.

Q. How many were caught there ?—A. We only fished there one day, to the best of my recollection, and we got something in the neighborhood of 30 or 35 barrels.

Q. Were any taken that year by you within three miles of the shore ?—A. A certain number of vessels fish around Prince Edward Island and the coast of Cape Breton at different places. Some fish near the Port Hood Islands, on the west coast of Cape Breton.

Q. But where were these 180 barrels taken ?—A. At the Magdalen Islands principally. We staid there as long as we could, with regard to the weather. We left them somewhere near the middle of October ; but I cannot remember the exact time.

Q. Where did you then go ?—A. To Port Hood, for a harbor.

Q. Were the mackerel you took near Margaree Island caught either within three miles of the island or the mainland ?—A. They were probably taken within three miles of Margaree Island.

Q. But not within three miles of the mainland ?—A. No.

Q. Were they taken outside of that island ?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you make your third trip to the Gulf of St. Lawrence ?—A. I cannot remember the year exactly ; but the next vessel in which I went there was the Aphrodite, Captain Calderwood.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take ?—A. Two hundred and seventy.

Q. Where were they taken ?—A. Principally between North Cape, Prince Edward Island, and Miscou Island, up the west shore.

Q. Was any portion of them taken within three miles of the shore ?—A. We did not fish much in any other part of the bay. There did not seem to be any fish at the Magdalen Islands that summer of any consequence. The fish were scarce there that year, and we took the most part of our fish up in that part of the bay. We took none of any consequence anywhere else.

Q. To what part of the bay do you particularly allude ?—A. To that between North Cape and Point Miscou.

Q. Were they taken within three miles of the shore ?—A. I should not say that they were.

Q. Can you give any reason why they were not ?—A. It is because you cannot raise a body of mackerel in such shoal water as is generally found three miles from the shore on that part of the coast.

Q. What is the shoalest water in which you usually raise a school of mackerel ?—A. We cannot raise a school, to make it profitable to lay to and heave over bait, in short of 20 or 25 fathoms of water.

Q. Is the water as deep as that along the shore between North Cape and Point Miscou within three miles of the shore ?—A. I think not.

Q. Have you fished along the north shore of Prince Edward Island ?—A. Yes.

Q. You were only in the gulf for mackerel during three years ?—A. No ; I was there two years since that.

Q. Did you fish along the bend of the island during the early years when you were in the bay ?—A. Yes ; but very little ; nothing of any consequence.

Q. How near the shore do you anchor when seeking a lee off the bend of the island ?—A. From 2 to 2½ miles of the shore.

Q. And then when you weigh anchor and try to fish again, do you begin to fish from the anchorage ground, or do you run out farther ?—A.

We then run off usually from 1 mile to $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and perhaps $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles before we try.

Q. What is the nearest point to the land at which you have known fishing to be done off Prince Edward Island?—A. From 3 to 5 and probably from 5 to 15 miles off.

Q. Why is it that a vessel, in order to fish advantageously, must raise a considerable school of mackerel?—A. You have to have a considerable body of fish alongside to make it profitable to heave bait over; bait costs considerable.

Q. How much bait would you throw over usually during a day's fishing?—A. From 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ barrels.

Q. What does it cost per barrel?—A. It varies in price at different seasons; sometimes the price is as high as \$8, and sometimes as low as \$6.

Q. Can you fish even at the distance from the land you have mentioned off the north coast of Prince Edward Island and the bend of the island when the wind is on shore?—A. No.

Q. Why not?—A. Because the water is shoal, and the sea raises there very quickly and becomes rough, and of course as the wind increases the sea will naturally increase, and we have then to get out of there and go somewhere else.

Q. Is it a safe place to be in?—A. No, not when the wind is on shore.

Q. Is there any particular point from which the wind there chiefly blows?—A. Not that I know of; the wind varies there about the same as at any other part of the coast.

Q. How long does it ordinarily take to run the whole length of the island?—A. 11 hours, with a good breeze.

Q. Were you fishing up in these waters at any time when the cutters were here?—A. Yes, one year.

Q. That was the year you did not fix, and your third one, I suppose?—A. No, it was since then.

Q. Do you remember either during your first or third year's fishing here, going into Malpeque Harbor and getting aground?—A. Yes.

Q. When was that?—A. The year I was in the Aphrodite. We went ashore going into Malpeque Harbor in the night.

Q. How did it happen?—A. The night was dark and stormy.

Q. What did you get ashore on?—A. On the bar while going in.

Q. Have you been in any of the other harbors in the bend of the island?—A. I was in Cascumpeque once.

Q. Were you in any others?—A. No; not on that side of the island.

Q. Is it easy to enter either Cascumpeque or Malpeque Harbors with a light wind?—A. No.

Q. Can fishing-vessels depend on getting into them and out of the way from the storm?—A. No.

Q. What, then, is the way of escape from a storm for fishing-vessels off the bend of the island?—A. When you see a storm commence, you must either go one way or the other to get out of the bend of the island—either around North Cape or down around East Point. The wind is generally so that you can fetch one way or the other.

Q. How quickly does a high wind get up there?—A. It varies considerably; sometimes a squall rises, and it blows very heavily in a very short time—in a few minutes, in fact; and sometimes the wind rises gradually.

Q. What do you say about the Magdalen Islands as a place for safe fishing?—A. This is a very good place for fishing, because we can make a lee with any wind.

Q. For some years after your first three years you were not in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. No.

Q. When were you there again?—A. In 1872.

Q. In what vessel?—A. The Hattie B. West; I was the skipper.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take?—A. Three hundred and seven.

Q. How long were you taking them?—A. We went into the bay some time between the 1st and the 10th of August, and we left it on the 25th of October.

Q. Where were these fish taken?—A. All at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. When did you leave the Magdalen Islands?—A. About the 20th or the 21st of October.

Q. Where did you then go?—A. To Georgetown, Prince Edward Island.

Q. For what?—A. We started to go to Port Hood, but when we got across to East Point, Prince Edward Island, the wind came from the southward with such force that we could not fetch Port Hood, and as the wind blew fresh, we went into Georgetown and there made preparations to go home.

Q. Did you afterward go to Port Hood?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you fish that year anywhere save at the Magdalen Islands?—A. We tried one day from East Point up the island probably twelve miles on the north side, with some fifty sail of vessels.

Q. How far out were you?—A. We tried all the way probably three to twelve miles off shore.

Q. With what success?—A. We could not find anything; none of us got anything.

Q. This was in 1872?—A. Yes.

Q. What were you doing in 1873?—A. I was then again in the bay.

Q. In what vessel?—A. The Joe Hooker.

Q. Were you skipper?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you go into the bay?—A. Somewhere about the 10th of July; but I would not be certain.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take that season?—A. We sent home by a freighter from Canso, 210½ barrels; we then returned, and got back the day before the storm of 1873.

Q. Did you send your fish home in a sailing-vessel or in a steamer?—A. We shipped them in a sailing-vessel.

Q. What did it cost to send them home?—A. Seventy-five cents a barrel.

Q. From what port did you send them?—A. Port Hawkesbury.

Q. When?—A. The gale took place on the 13th, I think, and—but I can hardly remember the date, though I have it all down in some of my books, which I haven't with me; it was somewhere about the 1st of August.

Q. What did you do after that?—A. We took 270 barrels.

Q. Where did you catch your two fares of mackerel in 1873?—A. We caught our first trip on Bank Bradley and at the Magdalen Islands in the summer; and we took our second trip principally at the Magdalen Islands; we got some few at Prince Edward Island.

Q. How many did you take at Prince Edward Island?—A. Probably one-eighth of the last fare, but no more.

Q. How near the shore was that portion taken?—A. They were caught, I should say, from 5 to 15 miles off the land.

Q. Were you in Port Mulgrave that season?—A. No.

Q. Your whole catch that year, in your two trips, was 480½ barrels, which went home to Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you the means of telling how much you made that year yourself or how your vessel did?—A. I could not give the exact stock, but it was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$7,000.

Q. What was the quality of the mackerel?—A. They were ones and twos.

Q. With what firm did you fit out?—A. Shute & Merchant, of Gloucester, who owned the vessel.

Q. And they packed out the mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. What have you been doing since?—A. Principally seining around on the coast of the United States.

Q. What did you do in 1874, seining?—A. I did not go out until June, and I believe we landed 800 barrels.

Q. How many trips did you make?—A. Four, after the 1st of June.

Q. What were you doing in 1875?—A. Seining, after the 1st of June.

Q. Did you go cod-fishing in the spring?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. To Sable Island Bank.

Q. How early did you begin your seining for mackerel?—A. By the 1st of June.

Q. And you took 500 barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1876, where were you?—A. In the same business as in 1875; I was cod-fishing in the spring.

Q. When did you begin seining?—A. About the same time, the 1st of June.

Q. How did you succeed last year?—A. We did very well.

Q. How many barrels did you get?—A. I was in two different vessels; and last spring I did not go cod-fishing at all.

Q. What did you do in your vessel?—A. We went south for mackerel in her. We went away down the coast seining.

Q. How many barrels did you take on the first trip?—A. We carried 100 barrels into New York fresh and we carried home 270 barrels.

Q. You got 370 barrels?—A. Yes; 100 we sold in New York and 270 we packed.

Q. How long were you making that trip?—A. About 6 weeks, I think.

Q. What did you do afterwards?—A. I went seining in another vessel.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. About 500, I think—during the best of the season.

Q. How many then did you get on the whole?—A. About 870 barrels during the whole summer.

Q. What were you doing last spring?—A. I did not do anything until I went seining.

Q. How many mackerel did you take this spring?—A. I cannot tell exactly, because we sold the most of them fresh in New York; we iced them and carried them in fresh.

Q. You did not sell them by the barrel?—A. No.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Where did you go fishing?—A. To the southward of New York.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. How many barrels did you pack besides the fresh ones?—A. After we were done with the fresh ones we brought in 330 barrels salted.

Q. What was the vessel's stock?—A. She stocked on the first trip \$5,112.

Q. How long did it take you to do that?—A. About 7 weeks, or probably rather 8 weeks.

Q. Whereabouts were these fish taken?—A. All the way from 20 miles north of Hatteras to as far north as Nantucket.

Q. Where did you go on your next trip this season?—A. Down on the coast of Maine; we were a short time gone; we could not find any fish, and so we came home again.

Q. What did you do?—A. I believe we stocked about \$500 on the second trip.

Q. Did you make a third trip this year?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. At Block Island.

Q. What was your luck there?—A. It was very good, considering.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. 130.

Q. What did they sell for?—A. \$22.50 and \$23.50 a barrel. We sold them at Gloucester; they were Block Island mackerel.

Q. What was your stock?—A. I could not tell exactly, but we shared \$79 each, and there were 14 men.

Q. What was the total amount all your trips this summer stocked, seined on the United States coast?—A. I heard it talked of at the time, and I think that it was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$8,000.

Q. That was the result of the stocking out?—A. Yes; that was the total stock.

Q. When did you cease fishing this summer?—A. About the 1st of August.

Q. And soon afterwards you came up in the Speedwell as pilot?—A. Yes.

Q. You have been several times in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and you have fished over our own coast from Hatteras up, and I should like to ask you a few questions respecting the food of the mackerel—where do you find it?—A. We find it usually from 20 to 50 miles off the land, during the early part of the season; generally we do not then find any food at the surface of the water; so their food at this time consists of shrimps and sand fleas, which we find inside of the fish.

Q. What do you find later?—A. We then find what we call red seed—I do not know its proper name, but it is something that looks round and red—with shrimps and little small fish of different kinds.

Q. How far out at sea have you found this food, this red stuff?—A. I have seen it, I may safely say, 40 miles southeast of George's.

Q. In what quantities?—A. I could not exactly say, because when we are out that way of course, if we see any fish, we have not much time to look after anything else.

Q. Have you found it in abundance or in small quantities? A. Some years it is very abundant, and more years when the mackerel do not play out that way, there probably won't be so much of it.

Q. Where and when do the mackerel first appear on the United States coast in spring?—A. We first find them somewhere abreast of Hatteras or a little to the northward of it—20 miles north of Hatteras.

Q. At what date?—A. From the 20th to the 25th of April.

Q. When are they at Cape Delaware?—A. That depends upon the weather; if you have northerly and easterly winds they won't come up very fast; they will then come very slowly along the coast, but if you have moderate southerly and westerly winds they will naturally work along a little faster than if it was a cold and backward spring. They vary considerably in the time of their appearance.

Q. Give us the average approximate dates when they make their appearance off Cape Delaware.—A. It is something like fifteen days per-

haps at the average, but if it is not a moderate season it would probably be from fifteen to eighteen days.

Q. I want to learn the average date of their appearance off Cape Delaware; which is the earliest and which the latest date?—A. It would be somewhere about the 10th of May, and perhaps sometimes a little earlier than that.

Q. At what date do they reach Sandy Hook?—A. Probably about the 15th of May they arrive there, and afterward they reach Montak Point, at the east end of Long Island. They stop longer off New York than off any other part of the coast. We cannot tell exactly when they come to Montak, because after they leave the grounds off New York we think they go to the bottom and spawn; the schools are then broken up a great deal at certain points; after they go along the coast of Long Island, or get down that way, they do not appear to be in as great a body as they are off New York; they do not school so often in these quarters.

Q. And you think that the schools begin to break up at that point?—A. Yes; as a general thing.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Is that at Sandy Hook?—A. It occurs east of it on the coast of Long Island.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. When do the mackerel reach the vicinity of Cape Cod and Nantucket?—A. The schools vary considerably in this respect. The fish that pass through by the Vineyard get through early, but the fish that go outside do not get along quite so early. Sometimes part of them will get down through by the Vineyard by the 1st of June, or perhaps the 10th of June; but the fish that go outside will be a little later.

Q. Where are the spawning places for mackerel off the United States coast?—A. We think that a great quantity of them spawn on the southwest part of George's Bank and about Nantucket Shoals, off Sankaty Head, and on the fishing-ground off there; a large fishing-ground is situated southeast or east of Nantucket.

Q. Coming north of Nantucket Shoals, where are the spawning grounds found?—A. Sankaty Head is where there is a light-house on the eastern part of Nantucket Island, I believe.

Q. Southwest from George's Bank?—A. Yes.

Q. Where do you find their spawning grounds, to the northward of this?—A. On the different Banks around Massachusetts Bay, I suppose, though I never caught any spawning there, but I have caught mackerel there at different times out of which spawn would run.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. At what date was this the case?—A. Probably from the 1st to the 15th of June; those fish do not all spawn at the same time. This depends on the time when they arrive on the coast. Those that pass through the Vineyard do not generally spawn until after they get through.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Give the earliest and the latest dates for the spawning season at the different points on our coast?—A. This would extend probably from the 15th of June to the 1st of July.

Q. Then you think that their spawning is concluded on our coast by the 1st of July?—A. Yes.

Q. How long do the different spawning times for the schools of mack-

erel last?—A. Probably not more than 10 days, and perhaps not so long. When the mackerel are spawning, in our opinion, there is generally a dull spell, during which they do not school or go into deep water, as they have gone down, we think, to spawn. We do not then catch many of them, and before this dull spell commences, the spawn is running out of a great many of them quite freely. When we find that they have come up again in bodies—which is probably ten days or a fortnight after the opening of the dull spell—we find that the spawn is out of them.

Q. How soon do they begin to be in good condition after their spawning is over?—A. You can perceive that they have increased some in flesh in a fortnight's time afterwards.

Q. Name the points on the American coast at which the mackerel are taken in large quantities, beginning to the southward, and running northward, and the particular seasons when these fish are abundant at these points?—A. We find quite a body of fish after their spawning is through, out near the south shoal lightship at Nantucket, and off to the eastward of Nantucket Island; southeast of that we find quite a body of mackerel after their spawning is done, some years; and some years there will not be so many there; but generally a number of fish are taken there.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. When does this take place?—A. From the 25th of June to the 10th of July, sometimes; the dates vary some.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Mention the most southerly point where the mackerel are found in abundance?—A. We never find any extra fishing until we get somewhere near half-way between Cape Cod and Sandy Hook; along the coast there we find the fish considerably plentiful. We find them there north of the light-ship—say 20 miles north of it, off Delaware.

Q. How many mackerel did you ever know to be taken in one day there, by one vessel?—A. I have known 100 barrels to be taken there by vessels in one day.

Q. When you were with them?—A. Yes; I saw them at the time.

Q. When was this?—A. Somewhere along about the 1st of May.

Q. That was before they had spawned?—A. Yes; the date when they are so caught there varies sometimes; it is sometimes later and sometimes earlier. We sometimes take large quantities off Barnegat, from 15 to 45 miles off the land.

Q. Where is Barnegat?—A. It is situated probably five-eighths of the way from Cape Cod to Sandy Hook.

Q. How large a quantity have you known to be taken off Barnegat by the vessel?—A. Sometimes we get in one haul there 150 barrels and perhaps more. I have been there when 140 barrels were taken in a day at one haul of the seine.

Q. When was that?—A. Probably from the 1st to the 5th of May.

Q. What is the next point farther north?—A. Off New York, and Sandy Hook.

Q. When are they caught there?—A. Perhaps from the 5th to the 10th of May, and may be a little later. The fish remain some time off New York; their stay depends on the weather.

Q. How large a catch have you known to be taken in one day there?—A. This last spring we took as high as 180 barrels at one haul there.

Q. Which is the next point?—A. After the mackerel get by there, we do not find anything that is extra good fishing until we get down

towards the South Shoal light-ship, near Nantucket; perhaps there may be some at Montauk, but there are not so many there as down about the light-ship. There is no extra good fishing near Montauk during the first part of the season.

Q. How large a catch have you known to be made there?—A. The schools at this point are generally broken up a great deal.

Q. You think that the schools break up?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels have you ever known to be taken there in one day?—A. Perhaps from 20 to 40 barrels.

Q. What is the next place?—A. The next place, where we find large schools, is down about the South Shoal light-ship.

Q. You have omitted to mention Block Island?—A. Well, we do not find mackerel there to any amount early in the summer.

Q. How early do you find them there?—A. We find them there in small schools about the same time as off Montauk.

Q. What is the season for fishing at Block Island?—A. Along in midsummer.

Q. After they have spawned?—A. Yes; fish have been caught this summer near Montauk Point. Those are fish that do not come north any farther, but stay at Block Island all summer.

Q. Give an account of Block Island mackerel-fishing, and state the quality caught, the times when taken, and the quantities of the catches made there.—A. They have been taken this year there in very small schools, and as low as 5 barrels in a school, though there have been as high as 200 barrels taken in a school this summer after the 1st of July; there was nothing done before that there of any account.

Q. How was the fishing last year at Block Island?—A. We did not have any vessels there last summer. One or two vessels went there and staid a short time, and two out of that number got trips.

Q. What is the quality of Block Island mackerel?—A. These fish are commonly large enough and long enough for extra ones.

Q. By that you mean mess mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. What are they sold for?—A. I do not know what price they have brought this summer. We did not mess our mackerel; but probably they will bring from \$26 to \$27 a barrel.

Q. Is their price a good deal higher than that of any other mackerel which comes to the market?—A. Yes.

Q. Where is the next place at which the mackerel are found in abundance?—A. East of Block Island.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. When are the fine mackerel which you have just mentioned taken?—A. From the last of July and all through August.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. You say that this school of mackerel does not go farther north?—A. Yes.

Q. Explain why you think so.—A. I say so because we do not catch any schools of that sized mackerel any distance to the north of this point, or more than 20 miles to the north of Block Island. We get an odd mackerel, overgrown, in a school, once in a while, but we do not meet with schools of such mackerel any distance north of Block Island.

Q. You are satisfied that this school goes no farther north?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that the commonly received opinion?—A. We have never taken notice of this fact until of late years, although those fish were there previously. Those who have fished there during different seasons tell me that these fish have been there every season for a number of years.

Q. Where is the next place at which mackerel are taken?—A. We do not take many after we leave this point until we reach Nantucket.

Q. When are they found there?—A. After they have spawned.

Q. Give the dates as near as you can in this regard.—A. They are found here from the 20th or the 25th of June until the 10th of July perhaps; this would be about the period during which the largest body of fish is met with at this point.

Q. Is there a school which stays about Nantucket all summer?—A. No.

Q. Why do they go there?—A. I do not know. I suppose that part of them go there to spawn. This is where we miss them after they first come there; we lose the fish that first come on the coast there for a short time.

Q. What is the greatest catch which you have known to be made in a day by one vessel off Nantucket?—A. I have known vessels take a school, which they could not handle, there in a day; they would have to let a large quantity of the fish go out before they could handle the seine.

Q. What is the largest number of barrels which you have known to be brought on deck?—A. We took 200 barrels there this summer, and, after taking this quantity out, we gave the seine over to another vessel which took out an additional 150 barrels, and then a shark went through the seine, tearing it to pieces, so they lost the rest, and consequently we do not know how many barrels were in the seine.

Q. Why did you give away 150 barrels?—A. Because we could not dress any more than we had taken out. We had all we could take care of in good weather.

Q. And you know that 350 barrels were taken out of the seine before the shark destroyed it?—A. Yes.

Q. When was this?—A. I cannot give the exact date, but it happened some time between the 5th of June and the 10th of July.

Q. Had the fish then spawned?—A. Yes.

Q. It was after the mackerel were in good condition?—A. We got a very small quantity of twos out of this catch, and twos were the best we could get out of them at that time of the year.

Q. What is the case north of Nantucket Shoals?—A. We will find that same body of fish after they leave that place on George's Bank.

Q. Have you seined there?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the largest quantity which you have known one vessel to seine there in one day?—A. I can only speak in this relation concerning vessels in which I have myself been. We have taken 100 and 110 barrels at a haul there.

Q. At what time during the summer?—A. Probably about the 20th of July.

Q. Were those mackerel in good condition?—A. There were some ones among them then.

Q. They had fattened up some?—A. Yes.

Q. Where is the next point at which mackerel are found?—A. The next point of any consequence is situated on the coast of Maine, near Monhegan and Mount Desert Islands. Monhegan Island lies off the mouth of the Penobscot.

Q. How far is this from Mount Desert?—A. I do not know exactly, but it is somewhere about 40 miles from it.

Q. Is that in the Bay of Penobscot?—A. This island lies off shore—off the western part of Penobscot Bay, outside.

Q. How large an island is it?—A. I cannot tell exactly.

Q. Has it any inhabitants?—A. Yes; quite a number of fishermen live on it. I suppose it has 100 inhabitants, and perhaps more. It belongs to the State of Maine.

Q. How large a catch have you known to be made there in a day by one vessel?—A. We do not generally catch there more than from 100 to 125 barrels in a haul. Sometimes, however, vessels get more there; but I have known that to be done in a day.

Q. When?—A. From the last of July along through August.

Q. What is the quality of the fish caught in this locality?—A. All that are large and long enough are fit for number ones.

Q. What does this indicate with respect to fatness?—A. There are no particularly long ones; but at that time of the year, they are fat enough for ones, if they are long enough.

Q. What is the next place?—A. Well, we remain there the bigger part of the season until the mackerel begin to move westward again.

Q. Do you not go nearer to Mount Desert than that?—A. We find the best fishing between Monhegan Island and Mount Desert; this is the ground we fish on from the last of July all through August.

Q. Over how large a space?—A. Along a coast of 40 miles perhaps, and perhaps a little more; we fish all the way from 10 to 50 miles off the shore there out to Jeffrey's Bank, and even farther than that.

At this point the examination of this witness was interrupted by consent of the Commission, to allow of the hearing of other testimony.

No. 43.

CASTANUS M. SMALLEY, fisherman, of Belfast, Me., was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. Did you sail out of Rockland or Belfast?—Answer. My vessel sails from Rockland.

Q. When did you begin to go fishing?—A. In 1858.

Q. Did you fish during 1858, 1859, and 1860?—A. Yes.

Q. In the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. How many trips did you make in 1858?—A. One.

Q. How many fish did you then catch?—A. 200 barrels.

Q. Did you catch any of these within three miles of the shore?—A. No; they were all taken on Banks Orphan and Bradley.

Q. How many barrels did you catch in 1859?—A. About 175.

Q. And in 1860?—A. About 200 barrels.

Q. Did you pack out that number?—A. These were what we call sea-barrels.

Q. Did you try to fish inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. In what way?—A. With hooks and lines and bait.

Q. Did you go in and drift out?—A. Yes; we hardly ever anchor when we are fishing for mackerel.

Q. What portion of your fish, at the outside, do you think you caught inshore within three miles of the coast in 1860?—A. Possibly one-third.

Q. That is the outside figure?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you find the most and the best mackerel during these three years—inshore or off shore?—A. Off shore.

Q. There is no question about that?—A. No.

Q. After 1860 you were not fishing for some years?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. I think that I started fishing again in 1866, the year after the war.

Q. In what vessel were you in 1858?—A. The Georgiana, of Cohasset.

Q. And in 1859?—A. I was then in the same vessel.

Q. And in 1860?—A. I was then in the Star of Hope, of Cohasset.

Q. Were you in the service of the United States in the Army?—A.

Yes.

Q. When did you join the Army?—A. In July, 1862.

Q. And until when did you stay in it?—A. Until the 7th of June, 1865.

Q. When did you next go fishing?—A. I next went to the bay, I think, in 1867.

Q. Did you fish in 1866?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. Partly on our shore.

Q. In a fishing-vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. For what?—A. Mackerel.

Q. At what part of the American shore did you fish?—A. We fished all the way from Mount Desert Rock to Cashes Ledge and Cape Cod.

Q. In 1867 you came to the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you then catch?—A. About 200.

Q. What was the name of your vessel that year?—A. The Florence Reed.

Q. Where did you fish?—A. At the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Did you catch all your fish there?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you have a license in 1867?—A. Yes.

Q. And still you caught all your fish off the Magdalen Islands?—A.

Yes.

Q. And made no use of your license?—A. No.

Q. Where did you fish in 1868?—A. On our shore.

Q. For mackerel?—A. For codfish and mackerel.

Q. Between Mount Desert and Cape Cod?—A. For mackerel; yes.

Q. Where did you fish for cod?—A. On the Western Bank for the spring trip.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1869?—A. Yes.

Q. And also in 1870?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you catch in 1870?—A. We carried out of the bay that year 200 barrels.

Q. That was the last time that you were then in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you fit for?—A. That was all the vessel would carry; we were full. I am in the same vessel now.

Q. What is her name?—A. The Esperanza.

Q. What portion of your fish was caught broad off shore and more than three miles from the coast?—A. From one-third to one-half were taken off shore and the rest, eel-grass mackerel, were caught inshore.

Q. Where?—A. Principally around Prince Edward Island.

Q. Of what quality were these mackerel?—A. They were poor.

Q. How came you to fish there for poor mackerel; were there none to be caught outside?—A. I presume that some were to be caught outside at the time, but if a man gets a catch of fish inshore, he is liable to stop there and see if he can get another one.

Q. Where were you fishing in 1871 and 1872?—A. On the American coast.

Q. Were you fishing for cod and mackerel?—A. We were cod-fishing on the spring trips, and we fished for mackerel during the rest of the season. In the spring we were on the Western Bank and not on the Grand Bank.

Q. How did you do?—A. Very well, indeed.

- Q. Were you in 1873 in the bay again?—A. Yes.
- Q. In what vessel were you in 1868?—A. The Esperanza.
- Q. Were you in the same vessel in 1869?—A. Yes.
- Q. Have you been in her ever since?—A. No.
- Q. In 1869 you were in her?—A. Yes.
- Q. In 1870?—A. Yes.
- Q. In 1871?—A. Yes.
- Q. In 1872?—A. I was in her.
- Q. In 1873 you were in the bay again?—A. Yes.
- Q. How many trips?—A. I made one in the vessel myself and came down, and the second trip I stopped ashore.
- Q. Was that the Esperanza?—A. No, it was the Ernest F. Norwood.
- Q. How many did you catch?—A. 230. I am pretty positive it was that.
- Q. Did you hear anything about the second trip?—A. I heard it was 260.
- Q. You learned that from whom?—A. From the master, Captain Adams.
- Q. Is it true that the vessel got 400 barrels the second trip?—A. No, I do not think it is.
- Q. Why not?—A. In the first place, I do not think the master would lie about it, and in the second place the vessel could not carry them.
- Q. That was in 1873, you are sure?—A. Yes.
- Q. Those 230 caught when you were on board her, where were they taken?—A. They were principally taken from Bank Orphan to East Port.
- Q. Offshore?—A. Well, I should say so. I mean the principal part of them was taken off shore.
- Q. How many of the 230 do you think were taken near inshore?—A. Well, it is a pretty hard matter for a man to stand on deck and tell whether it is within three or six miles, but a man's judgment would lead him. I should say that perhaps one-third of the whole trip was taken within between three and five miles.
- Q. Do you think you took any within less?—A. Yes, there might be some.
- Q. What proportion of the whole was taken within less than three miles?—A. There might be 30 or 40.
- Q. You tried inside and outside?—A. Yes, we always did that.
- Q. And you found a small catch inside, while they were largest and most numerous outside?—A. Yes.
- Q. In 1874, you were ashore?—A. Yes.
- Q. In 1875, you were at home. In 1876 where were you?—A. I was fishing.
- Q. Where?—A. In the bay.
- Q. Were you cod-fishing early in the spring?—A. Yes.
- Q. How many months did you fish for cod?—A. We generally calculated to get ready about the 20th of March and return somewhere about June.
- Q. Then you would go off in July to the bay for mackerel?—A. Yes. I believe I went through Canseau last year, the 26th day of July. I am pretty positive it was the 26th.
- Q. When did you return?—A. I came out of the bay somewhere between the 2d and 5th of September; at any rate, I was home the day of our State election.
- Q. What day is the State election?—A. It is, I think, the second Monday in September.

Q. You made two trips when in the bay. How was it that year?—
A. Very dull.

Q. Did you try inshore and outshore both?—A. Yes.

Q. Now in 1877, this year, when did you go into the bay?—A. I went to the bay in August. I went through Canseau.

Q. Are you in here for harbor?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you come in?—A. Day before yesterday.

Q. Are you homeward bound?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you leave the fishing-grounds, or come through the Gut?—A. We came through Canseau a week ago; we came last Saturday.

Q. How much did you get all this time?—A. 110 barrels.

Q. And you tried inshore and outshore both?—A. Yes.

Q. What parts of the bay have you been?—A. We have been from what we call the West Shore to Port Hood.

Q. You fished all around?—A. Yes.

Q. And that is the best you could do?—A. Yes.

Q. How much can your vessel carry?—A. I fitted for 200. We had a small vessel.

Q. This won't pay?—A. No, I don't think it will.

Q. Did you heave to in the Bend?—A. Yes, I tried coming down. We hove to two or three times.

Q. Did you find anything?—A. Perhaps we might catch half a dozen mackerel.

Q. Not half a dozen barrels?—A. No.

Q. Those were not very large were they?—A. Well, they were what we term No. 2, small fry.

Q. You have been codfishing how many seasons, do you think, in all?—A. I have been codfishing five seasons in the same vessel. That is what we term spring fishing, not the season right through.

Q. Have you used salt bait or fresh?—A. Salt bait always, with the exception of one trip that we caught mackerel and had them spoil on our hands.

Q. Did you find the salt bait successful?—A. Yes.

Q. Hand-lining?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you a trawl also?—A. No, sir.

Q. You haven't found it necessary to go in for fresh bait?—A. No, sir.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. I don't know whether you mentioned the number of barrels you caught in 1876?—A. I don't think I was asked it.

Q. About how many?—A. 120 barrels.

Q. What vessel had you in 1876?—A. The Esperanza.

Q. The same as now?—A. Yes.

Q. What is her tonnage?—A. 43 tons, American tonnage.

Q. She got pretty well for that tonnage?—A. Well, we didn't call it so, with 12 men.

Q. Are 12 men a fair average number in a vessel that size?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You caught one-third inshore? Is that the average?—A. Yes, sir, generally.

Q. It is, in your best judgment?—A. In my best judgment we generally caught one-third or somewhere about that.

Q. That would be a fair average, I suppose?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Sometimes more and sometimes less, but from one-third to one-half?
Mr. DANA. He didn't say that.

Mr. DAVIES. He said from one-third to one-half were taken inshore.

Q. You said you took two-thirds or one-half offshore?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you think that would be an average, one-third inshore; that would be a fair average of the fishing of the mackerel-vessels inshore generally?—A. Generally speaking, of some vessels. There are some vessels that hang around inshore that are not fit to go out.

Q. They would catch more inshore?—A. Yes, and poorer fish.

Q. One third, you think, would be a fair average for large vessels?—A. I am not going to speak of others besides my own.

Q. One-third would be a fair average?—A. What I took out of the bay, one-third was caught by the three-mile limit; but we might have been a little further off or a little nearer in. It is a hard matter to judge.

Q. Do you think there is any considerable number of those poorer vessels that can't fish further out but hang inshore?—A. There is quite a number of them that never come by East Point. They daren't go up in the bend.

Q. They are American vessels?—A. Some are, and some are not.

Q. About what proportion would you consider to be a fair proportion of American vessels that hug the shore that way?—A. I should say there was four-fifths of them American vessels, because there is not a great many English vessels that fish.

Q. What proportion of the fleet, I mean, that come into the gulf, hug the shore that way and catch fish more inshore?—A. There might be one in twenty-five sail.

Q. Do you think there would be that many?—A. Yes; there might be one in twenty-five.

Q. You have seen them, I suppose, in the different years you have been in the gulf?—A. Yes; there are always two or three hanging round in harbors that dare not try it outside. There are plenty of those poor vessels.

Q. You used a term, eel-grass mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, is that a term that is used on your shores at all?—A. That is a term that all those fishermen use when they catch mackerel inshore. They are an inferior quality, with black bellies. I have some of them on board now.

Q. Is it a term in use on your own shores?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you consider that your mackerel caught inshore are inferior to those caught outside?—A. Yes; we think that is so anywhere.

Q. Couldn't you catch the best mackerel on your shore in close?—A. Well, there are times when the mackerel will run in there to chase the bait in.

Q. Is it not the fact that the best mackerel are caught inside at Block Island?—A. I never fished there. I don't think they catch any in Block Island, within five or six miles of it.

Q. Are you acquainted with Rustico?—A. I have been up and down there.

Q. Are not they the very best quality of mackerel caught?—A. I would not call them so.

Q. That would be a matter of opinion?—A. Well, I could not call them so. I prefer fishing in a little deeper water. To make good, nice, white fish I prefer them caught in deeper water.

Q. What depth would you say?—A. I want them over eight fathoms. You can't get a very big depth in the Bay of St. Lawrence anywhere until you sail to the northward.

Q. Now, don't you think the same fish go out and in. Is it your idea that certain schools keep in one place and certain schools in

another? Is it not your idea that the same mackerel go out and in?—
A. Yes, it is my opinion that the mackerel go out and in, and we know they do. But it is my positive idea that the best fish that go into the Bay Chaleurs go through the strait and by Sydney.

Q. Do you mean the Strait of Canso?—A. No, the Strait of Belleisle and come down to Sydney.

Q. What time?—A. Well, they are passing up and down there after the month of August until they all go out.

Q. You think these are not the same as you catch off the north of the island?—A. No, I don't.

Q. Do you think your opinion is general?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. That they are a different class of fish altogether?—A. Yes.

Q. Might it not be just that you catch them later in the year when they are fatter?—A. Well, after September comes in they don't fat up much.

Q. Don't you think it is because you get later and fatter mackerel?—

A. No, I don't think that is the reason. I don't think fish fatten any after the middle of September.

Q. At any rate take the coast of the island itself. If you fish out in deep water you think you catch better fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you must be under the impression that they divide and the best remain outside while the poor ones come inside?—A. I don't know but what one fish is as good as another, but it takes food to make the fish.

Q. Is it not a fact that they feed in close to the shore?—A. There is food, but not such healthy food as outside.

Q. That is your theory?—A. Yes.

Q. Then it is altogether a question of food. You think they get better food inside?—A. Yes.

Q. And if it turned out that they got better food inshore you would change your opinion? You would say, then, that you would catch more mackerel inshore than off? If you found that the mackerel got their food inshore, you would perhaps change your opinion with regard to the matter?—A. Well, if there was better fish inshore than off, I should know there was better food inshore.

Q. Well, if the mackerel feed in eight fathoms, wherever that is, to-day, are they not to be found inshore to-morrow? Don't the same mackerel move about?—A. They move just which way the food moves.

Q. Then they move about everywhere?—A. Well, I could not say for that. I have caught mackerel for four or five days in one place and not seen any again for three weeks.

Q. Was that the same school, do you think, or were they moving about?—A. I think the fish was moving about.

Q. The first you encountered would be away, and others would fill their places?—A. Yes.

Q. Off the bend of the island will you not find eight fathoms within a mile of the island in many places?—A. Yes, there are many places there that you will find eight fathoms within a mile, I presume.

Q. Within half a mile?—A. Well, I never looked personally on the chart. I never calculated to stop around there a great deal, anyhow.

Q. What you mean is, that if you find them in eight fathoms you would get the best mackerel there?—A. No, I don't mean that.

Q. Well, suppose you would catch them in eight fathoms, would you call them eel-grass mackerel?—A. No, if they were nice fish I should not. If they were poor fish, with black bellies, I would call them ell-grass mackerel. It doesn't make any odds if they were caught in two fathoms.

No. 44.

EDWARD A. GOOGINS, of Portland, Maine, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. You are in what vessel now?—Answer. The Esperanza.

Q. You are in here accidentally?—A. Yes.

Q. You came in here for a harbor?—A. Yes.

Q. You are bound home?—A. Yes.

Q. You have got through your fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, when did you begin to go fishing?—A. When I was 14 years old.

Q. You were born in the year —?—A. 1834.

Q. That would make it 1848 when you went fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Where were you living then?—A. At Trenton, Maine.

Q. That is the custom-house district of Ellsworth?—A. Yes.

Q. At that time when you first went fishing where did you go?—A. I went to Grand Manan.

Q. How many years were you fishing off Grand Manan?—A. Seven years.

Q. Until you were 21?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you a skipper any of that time?—A. No; I was always a hand.

Q. Seven years you were a Trenton fisherman off Grand Manan?—A. Yes; Grand Manan and Nova Scotia.

Q. Now, where did you first go when the season began?—A. In the spring?

Q. Yes.—A. Around Nova Scotia.

Q. To what part?—A. Digby, Petit Passage, and Brier Island.

Q. For what?—A. Codfish.

Q. That was spring fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. During these seven seasons in the spring, when you caught cod off that part of Nova Scotia, where did you catch them? How far from land?—A. The principal part 12 miles from land; we judged 12, 14, or 15.

Q. Did you ever know of the distance being measured any time?—A. Only once; around the island.

Q. What was the nearest to land that you ever fished?—A. Four miles.

Now, how do you know it was four miles?—A. Well, there was a little dispute there. The natives of the island made a complaint to a man-of-war that the American fishermen fished within three miles of the land; and the place they called within three miles was "Gravelly Bottom," on the southeast part of Grand Manan, right off from Grand Manan, at the southeast end. They measured, and found it was four miles from the nearest land to where the American fishermen fished. Inside of that is deep water. On that it is shoal.

Q. So you were fishing on a shoal?—A. Yes; shoal water.

Q. It turned out to be four miles?—A. Yes.

Q. That is the nearest you ever went?—A. Yes; the nearest I ever fished in an American vessel.

Q. And your codfish you caught twelve or fifteen miles off?—A. That is the nearest we could judge.

Q. While you were fishing for cod there what bait did you use?—A. Herring.

Q. Did you go in for it?—A. We went in for it.

Q. To what place?—A. A number of places.

Q. Whatever place was nearest?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you generally go, on what day?—A. Generally on Saturday. We used to calculate to go in on Saturday, because we didn't fish on Sundays.

Q. None of your vessels fished on Sundays?—A. None I know of.

Q. Do you know any American vessels that fished inside of three miles?—A. No; I never heard of any.

Q. Well, you would meet them going in for bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Was it the custom to talk very freely with one another?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you think you got free and honest reports of where they fished?—A. Well, very near, for the very reason that we lived right close by one another. We could find out after a while.

Q. Do you know of any, during those seven seasons, that fished nearer than three miles?—A. No.

Q. Was that cod fishery pretty successful?—A. Sometimes it was, and sometimes not.

Q. Taken as a whole?—A. Yes, it was, taken as a whole.

Q. Did you move to Grand Manan to live?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you move to Grand Manan? The next year after you were twenty-one?—A. The next year after.

Q. You had a house there and were married?—A. No; I was married; my wife belonged to the island.

Q. You went to Grand Manan to live?—A. Yes.

Q. You engaged in fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Boat-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. You changed from vessel-fishing to boat-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Describe this boat-fishing. How big were the boats?—A. Twenty feet keel.

Q. She had no forecastle?—A. No; only a small temporary cuddy we rigged up ourselves.

Q. I will go back to the time you were fishing in vessels. Why was it you didn't fish nearer than four miles?—A. One reason was that they would not allow us, and another reason was that we could not do as well.

Q. If you had been allowed, if you had been left to your own preferences, which would you do?—A. We would prefer to fish outside, for the reason that the boats were in there and they could get more bait than we got. Their own vessels that were there could not do so well inside as outside at the time I was there.

Q. What did you learn from the inhabitants, as well as from the vessels, as to the American vessels? Did they ever tell you that the American vessels were within three miles?—A. No, I never heard only the one complaint. That was before I went there to live, and while I was there to live I never heard any complaints of the American vessels fishing inside.

Q. How long were you there?—A. I was there nine years.

Q. During these nine years you had a boat or boats about 20 feet in length?—A. Yes.

Q. Intended for a single day?—A. Yes.

Q. To come in nights?—A. Yes. We took our dinners with us.

Q. Tell me, if you please, what fishing you did the different seasons of the year in boats?—A. Well, in the spring we used to commence in May generally, sometimes a little earlier.

Q. What did you catch then?—A. We would catch a very few cod-fish, mostly hake.

Q. Well, the hake is a rather inferior fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Were they plenty or few?—A. They were scattering along in the spring. We didn't calculate to do a great deal anyway.

Q. Now you have fished seven years outside for cod and nine years in boats, I suppose mostly inside?—A. Yes, mostly inside.

Q. You can therefore compare them. Now which furnished the greatest number and the best fish?—A. Outside.

Q. There is no question about it?—A. No question about that.

Q. The hake is an inferior fish for eating. What does it furnish?—A. It furnishes most oil of anything.

Q. What is next? After a few scattered cod and hake principally, what is next?—A. The next is the hake in July and August to September. We catch these by night.

Q. Night fishing. What is next?—A. Generally herring fishing in the fall.

Q. From October to when?—A. To Christmas or New Year.

Q. That finishes the boat fishing for the season?—A. No. Then after the herring strikes in one place, it comes in another, and we get enough for bait. In winter we get small codfish. They are small, but they will do for pickling.

Q. And you set nets in the winter?—A. Yes.

Q. You set them from the Grand Manan?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it in the nets you catch small cod?—A. No; with line.

Q. Now, when the codfish are very abundant and better offshore, why did you take them inshore with boats?—A. Because I could be home every night to see my family. I had a house on the island, and I had a little place. I could take care of that and be at home. I could do my work and fish too. That is why I preferred boat fishing to vessel fishing. I would not have to be gone all the time.

Q. Now, that year, 1865, you spoke of nine seasons when you were boat fishing—what did you then do?—A. I moved across into Maine.

Q. Near Eastport?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the name of the town?—A. Trescot, Washington County.

Q. How many years did you live at Trescot?—A. I lived there from 1865 to the 28th of this last July.

Q. All that time working on shore?—A. Yes; I had nothing to do with fishing. This year I started fishing again.

Q. This vessel, the *Esperanza*, belongs to Rockland?—A. Yes.

Q. You were to the gulf?—A. Yes.

Q. How many were you fitted out for?—A. I understood, when I left, we fitted for 240 barrels.

Q. How much have you got in all?—A. 110 barrels.

Q. That is in sea-barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. That is a very unfavorable result?—A. Well, I should think so. I am not used to mackerel-fishing.

Q. You said the 28th July you went; did you go through Causo?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you recollect the date?—A. No.

Q. How many days had you been out when you went through?—A. We were some time getting ready from the time I went aboard. We were ten days, I think, going down.

Q. You can't recollect the date of your going through?—A. No.

Q. You got in here night before last for harbor?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you been pretty well around the gulf?—A. Well, I never

was there before. I could not tell you whether I have been pretty near around, or half, or a quarter of the way.

Q. Did you fish inshore as well as outside?—A. Well, it is useless to ask me any questions about that. As the land is low there I would not pass my judgment anything about this trip at all.

Q. About the distance?—A. No.

Q. This is your first experience of the bay mackerel-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. It will probably be the last?—A. I think very likely it will. I don't think I made enough to entice me to go again.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Your last knowledge of Grand Manan was the year 1865?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Off what shores did you fish this year in the Esperanza? Did you know the shores?—A. I didn't know the shores; I was a stranger there.

Q. You heard from those on board, though, what place?—A. They said they were fishing off the west shore, and there was one place they called North Cape, Prince Edward Island.

Q. East Point, Prince Edward Island, did you hear that?—A. Yes; I was there. We came down and up by it.

Q. Up and down the shore of the island?—A. We did not stop anywhere.

Q. You stopped at both ends?—A. Yes; we fished there.

Q. The fleet was fishing, I understand, chiefly about East Point and North Cape?—A. Yes.

Q. Many of them?—A. I should judge around North Cape there were fifteen or sixteen sail, perhaps twenty. I did not count them. At East Point I should think something like fifty sail when we were there.

Q. I suppose you didn't make any inquiries what they caught?—A. No.

Q. Did you go down the Cape Breton shore?—A. Only to Port Hood.

Q. Did you catch any there?—A. I think fifteen barrels, off shore.

Q. What other place?—A. I have mentioned all, except Georgetown.

Q. Well, that is part of Prince Edward Island. Whatever fish you did catch were caught in one or other of those places? You could not tell how far off?—A. No; you need not ask me any questions about that.

Q. You could see the land?—A. Yes.

Q. You saw the cows walking on it?—A. I don't think—I don't know that I ever saw one walking there; I don't know that they keep any cattle.

Q. Did you go ashore?—A. Once, in Georgetown. I saw a horse there once; that is the only kind of cattle I saw.

Q. It is a pretty good country for horses?—A. I don't know, I only saw one.

Q. Speaking seriously, do you mean to say you can't give an opinion as to the distance you were from the shore off East Point?—A. I could not.

Q. The captain of the Esperanza said they were fitted out for 200 barrels, not 240.—A. Well, I might have made a mistake; I might have misunderstood.

Q. What was the size of the vessel?—A. 43 or 44 tons.

Q. She would not like to carry more than 200 barrels. How many of a crew have you got?—A. Ten men.

Q. Just one question or two now about Grand Manan. You went in 1848, and fished for seven years on board American vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. You didn't fish there in American vessels after the Reciprocity Treaty came in? It was before that that the complaint was made?—A. I think it was. I was nothing but a boy at the time.

Q. You paid very little attention to where you were fishing?—A. I know we were not fishing inside of that line, because there was nothing there to catch.

Q. There are plenty of fish to be caught within?—A. No.

Q. The boat-fishing when you left there was chiefly inside? Am I not correct in saying that the boats catch most of their fish inside?—A. Yes. Sometimes they go out, but very seldom.

Q. I want to just understand correctly. Nearly all the fish caught by the boats are caught inside?—A. Yes.

Q. Then the fish are there to be caught?—A. Yes.

Q. Very well; and did you as a boy, fishing, pay particular attention to whether you were in or out?—A. We knew we were out, because I know all the grounds we were on. We fished on them year after year.

Q. You were asked why you didn't go in and said you were prohibited; you said because the people didn't allow you.—A. I said because a man-of-war didn't allow us.

Mr. DANA. He gave two reasons.

Mr. DAVIES. I should say one would be quite sufficient.

Mr. DANA. He could dodge a man-of-war if it was worth while.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Would you dodge a man-of-war to get inside?—A. I don't know what I might do. I never had the chance to try.

Q. The temptation was not thrown in your way. Now, I want to ask you, do you know anything about the fishing carried on there in winter by American vessels?—A. I do not.

Q. Then, for aught you know, they may fish inside altogether in winter?—A. They do not.

Q. Did I understand you correctly that you understood nothing about it? You said you knew nothing about the fishing in there in winter.—A. No, nor summer either.

Q. I asked if you had ever fished aboard an American vessel in winter about Grand Manan.—A. No; never.

Q. At any time of your life?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever see any fishing there in winter?—A. No.

Q. So you absolutely know nothing of it at all?—A. No; I absolutely know—

Q. Did I understand that you absolutely knew nothing of it at all?—

A. I don't understand your question. I wish you would put it plainer.

Q. I understand that you never fished on board a vessel in the winter about Grand Manan?—A. I have said.

Q. And also that you never saw an American vessel fishing in winter anywhere about the island?—A. Well, I could not go over the island all at once. I never heard about it.

Q. Then am I correct in saying you know nothing about it?—A. I know nothing about it further than that.

Q. I mean within or outside of three miles?—A. I never saw any American vessel around there in the winter that I can recollect.

Q. Then I am correct in saying you know nothing about whether they do or not?—A. I never saw them. How can I tell?

Q. Do you know Walter B. McLaughlin?—A. I have seen him.

Q. How many years is it, since you left Grand Manan altogether?—A. Twelve years, I think, or thirteen. I left in 1865.

Q. Then, since you have left Grand Manan you know nothing, I suppose, of the number of vessels?—A. No; I have never seen the island, that I recollect, since, any more than at a distance.

Q. As to the period during the last twelve years, you don't profess to say anything about it at all?—A. No.

Q. When you were there, after the end of the seven years, you fished in boats yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. What kind of a man is McLaughlin; a respectable man?—A. He is considered so.

Q. Is it possible that the fishing may have changed since you were there? I will read Mr. McLaughlin's statement with reference to the Grand Manan fishery. He was asked: "Now, about how many American vessels fish on the coast during the season?" He answers: "It would be hard to tell that. It has never been my duty to count them." He was asked: "They come in large numbers and they greatly outnumber ours?" He answers: "Yes; our people at Grand Manan fish but little in vessels." He is asked again: "Do these vessels come in fishing within three miles?" And he answers: "At a certain time of the year. In winter it is entirely within. The fall and winter fishing is entirely within." Now that may be the case for the last twelve years; you don't profess to know?—A. I don't profess to know anything about that.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. While you were there you saw no American vessels fishing there?—A. No.

No. 45.

ISAAC BURGESS, of Belfast, Me., fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You are one of the sharesmen on board the Eliza Poor, Captain Dickie, and are twenty-four years old?—Answer. Yes.

Q. When did you begin fishing for mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. In 1868.

Q. You must have been a little fellow then?—A. Yes; fifteen years old.

Q. Do you remember the name of the schooner?—A. The Oak Grove, Captain Burgess.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. 210 barrels.

Q. Where was she from?—A. Belfast.

Q. How long was she taking them?—A. She was somewhere in the neighborhood of seven or eight weeks. They were taken off shore on Bradley.

Q. Any within three miles?—A. No.

Q. Take the next time.—A. 1869. I was in the James Jewett, Captain Henry Coombes.

Q. Where from?—A. Belfast.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did she take?—A. 273.

Q. Now where were these taken?—A. On the West Shore, Escuminac, North Cape, East Point, and some at Magdalens.

Q. Well, if any of those were taken within three miles of the shore, state at what place and how many?—A. I don't think we caught any within three miles of the shore.

Q. What was the next year?—A. 1872.

Q. What vessel?—A. The Mary Louise, Oscar Fitch, captain, from Gloucester.

Q. What was her size?—A. 70 tons, I think.

Q. Did you make more than one trip?—A. Two trips.

Q. When did you go into the gulf?—A. We came in the first trip, I think, in June.

Q. What did you do with that first trip?—A. We took them back to Gloucester.

Q. How long were you gone the first trip?—A. About a month.

Q. How many barrels did you get?—A. 273 barrels the first trip.

Q. Where did you take them?—A. We took them around the island, North Cape, and Magdalen Islands.

Q. How many at the Magdalens?—A. We got half our trip there.

Q. How many off the island?—A. Probably 40 or 50 barrels.

Q. When fishing off the island, how near shore did you fish?—A. I don't think we fished less than four miles, four or five.

Q. Where else did you catch any part of your trip?—A. Some between Port Hood and East Point.

Q. Were those, any of them, within three miles?—A. No.

Q. Did you get any within three miles that trip?—A. A few at a place called Rustico one day within three miles. That is all during that trip.

Q. Well, how did you happen to be at Rustico?—A. We saw some small boats in fishing, springing up, and we went in there and tried them. It came on to blow that night and we had to go out. It was in the Bend, and we had to get off shore.

Q. How many barrels did you get?—A. 80 barrels that day, near Rustico.

Q. Take the next year?—A. That was 1874. I was in the Alice, Salem, Captain Elbridge Love, of Booth Bay.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take?—A. 173 barrels.

Q. How long were you getting them?—A. Somewhere in the neighborhood of nine weeks.

Q. When did you begin?—A. We came away from home about the 1st of August. We were a week, I believe, getting down.

Q. Where were those taken?—A. They were taken at the Magdalens, some around East Point, and some around Port Hood. The most of the trip at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Now the Alice, Salem, is put down that year as having come in on the 9th August one trip, and having gone home the 15th of October. Are those dates about right? Did you begin about August and end about the 15th October?—A. I think we did.

Q. But she is said to have taken 275 barrels?—A. 173 barrels was all we got aboard when I was aboard.

Q. Who was the fish merchant to whom she packed out?—A. Charles A. Dyer.

Q. May you be mistaken 100 barrels?—A. No; I am not.

Q. Most of those you say were taken at Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes.

Q. If any of them were taken within three miles, state where?—A. They were not.

Q. Well, this year you are in the Eliza Poor. As we have heard from her through others, I will not delay about that.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. I didn't take down the year you made two trips and got 273 barrels. What year was it?—A. That was in 1872.

Q. Where were you in 1870 and 1871?—A. In 1871 I was to work in Booth Bay in a factory.

Q. In 1874 you were in the Alice?—A. Yes.

Q. You are sure that was the year?—A. Yes.

Q. You left her. How many trips did you make?—A. Only one trip. I left her at Portland when she came home that trip.

Q. Who was the master?—A. Elbridge Love.

Q. Had you any Nova Scotia fishermen in her?—A. I don't know that we did. I cannot say. We had all kinds, Spaniards, Portuguese, French.

Q. Any from the provinces?—A. No; I don't think we did.

Q. None at all?—A. No.

Q. In some of these other years, did you have fishermen belonging to the provinces?—A. No; mostly from the State of Maine—from Belfast.

Q. But this year, 1874, you had foreigners?—A. Yes; we had mostly.

Q. Not much accustomed to fishing?—A. Poor fishermen generally.

Q. How many tons was she?—A. I think from 71 to 76 tons; 71, I am pretty sure.

Q. The previous vessel, what was her name?—A. The Oak Grove; that was 1868.

Q. In 1869?—A. I was in the James Jewett.

Q. The next one, what was the name?—A. That was in 1872—the Mary Louise.

Q. Had you Spaniards and Portuguese that trip?—A. No; mostly Americans.

Q. What was her tonnage?—A. I could not say exactly what the tonnage was. I think somewhere in the neighborhood of 70 or 75 tons.

Q. You caught your mackerel four miles off?—A. Yes.

Q. What proportion?—A. Half of them. I could not tell.

Q. I suppose that would be the distance you would select as being good fishing?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. That would be the best fishing you have?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. I suppose most of the fishermen fished that distance?—A. Yes; they generally fished off there, near four or five miles.

Q. It is considered about the best fishing, four or five miles?—A. Yes; it is.

Q. I suppose in some places the fish would go in three and a half miles?—A. Yes, some fish do.

Q. You would not mind coming in three and a half miles if you were four miles out. I suppose sometimes they would manage to get in three miles?—A. No vessels I have ever been in.

Q. I am not speaking of the vessels, but the fish—is there anything to stop them at four miles?—A. No.

Q. There is no obstruction of any kind. Just as good water?—A. Yes; only a little shallower.

Q. Just as good feed?—A. Yes.

Q. Perhaps better feed?—A. Well, most generally the gales drive them off, but they come back again.

Q. I suppose when the wind is a little off shore the best feed would be inside, closer in?—A. Yes.

Q. Closer inside than four miles?—A. I should say so.

Q. They would then go in pretty close?—A. Yes.

Q. You would then go in there and drift off?—A. Yes.

Q. And the fleet would do that. We have evidence of that. The fleet would run in as close as they could get and then drift off?—A. Yes; that was the way they fished.

Q. As close as they could get in?—A. Not within four miles.

Q. I was referring to a little closer. I wanted to come in a little

closer if I could. I was throwing a little bait?—A. Well, probably there might have been some fellows go in handier.

Q. Some would go in nearer?—A. Yes; some of the captains went in.

Q. Let us make a compromise and say three miles and a half. You don't object to that, do you? (No answer.)

No. 46.

CHARLES H. BRIER, of Belfast, Me., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot:

Question. You are a Belfast man?—Answer. Yes.

Q. When did you get here?—A. Night before last.

Q. You came in the Eliza Poor?—A. Yes.

Q. What brought her in?—A. The storm.

Q. How old are you?—A. Twenty-five.

Q. How long have you been fishing?—A. Fifteen years.

Q. When did you start?—A. When I was ten years old.

Q. What sort of fishing have you been doing?—A. Mackerel-fishing.

Q. Where?—A. Four years in the bay and the rest on our coast.

Q. What four years in the bay?—A. '67, '68, '70, and '77.

Q. Well, the first year you went in what vessel?—A. The Atlantic.

Q. Where from?—A. Belfast.

Q. Where did you go to fish?—A. To the bay.

Q. Whereabouts in the bay?—A. From East Point to North Cape.

Q. Did you make one or two trips?—A. One.

Q. How long was it?—A. Two or three months.

Q. Well, don't you recollect more particularly? Do you mean two or three?—A. About three.

Q. What did you catch?—A. We caught mackerel.

Q. What was the result of your fishing?—A. 200 barrels.

Q. Now, what proportion of these did you take within three miles?—

A. Of the 200 barrels we took 100 within three miles.

Q. Then in 1868, what vessel were you in?—A. The Rippling Wave.

Q. Where were you that year?—A. From North Cape to East Point and Escuminac.

Q. How many trips?—A. One.

Q. What tonnage was she?—A. Over 100 tons.

Q. How long did your trip last?—A. Three months.

Q. What did you take?—A. 250 barrels.

Q. Now, with regard to those 250 barrels, what proportion of them were taken within three miles?—A. They were taken off shore mostly.

Q. Where were you in 1870?—A. In the Eliza Poor.

Q. Where were you that year?—A. We went around the island to Escuminac, the West Shore.

Q. Was that one or two trips?—A. One trip.

Q. What did you take that year?—A. About 200 barrels. We were there about three months.

Q. Now what proportion of that catch was taken within three miles?—A. About one-half.

Q. Then in 1877 what vessel were you in?—A. The Eliza Poor.

Q. What did you do that year?—A. We got 110 barrels.

Q. That is the same voyage you are coming in now?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you go?—A. The 9th August.

Q. When did you come out?—A. About a week ago; we came out last Sunday.

Q. You got 110 barrels. What proportion of those were taken within three miles?—A. About one-half.

Q. Then only four years you have been in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. The rest you have been on the coast; now, how does your fishing on the coast compare in point of success with the fishing in the gulf?—

A. It is better on our coast the last ten years.

Q. I am talking of the time you have been there?—A. Yes.

Q. Is the fishing on the coast as expensive as in the gulf?—A. I don't think.

Q. In the fishing on the coast that you made, did you make long or short trips?—A. Short trips.

Q. Do you recollect your last trip?—A. Yes; we got between 900 and 1,000.

Q. In what time?—A. Five months, I should think.

Q. Well, you have been fishing fifteen years. As between fishing in the gulf and fishing in the bay, as a fishing industry, which is best?—A. I should rather fish on the coast, a great deal.

Q. Do you know anything about Prince Edward Island boat-fishing?—A. I have seen a good deal of it this year; we met the boats off the North Cape and East Point.

Q. How far did they come off?—A. A mile and a half to two and three miles.

By Mr. Doutre:

Q. Since fishing on the American coast is so much better than in the bay, why do you go in the bay?—A. Well, it failed this year; we had to go in the bay.

Q. When it is better at home you remain there, and when it is better in the gulf you go there?—A. Yes.

Q. That is quite sensible. You say it is not so expensive fishing on the coast. Please explain why.—A. Well, it does not cost so much. I don't know exactly. It is a good deal more expensive coming down to the bay than home.

Q. Well, why? Is it because you have more hands, or that more provisions are eaten—that they have a better appetite in the bay than on the coast? What is it?—A. I don't know.

Q. You don't fit on the American coast for three months because you may be only a week out?—A. We fit for three or four weeks.

Q. Very well, but you are not starting on such a long expedition as when you go to the bay. That is the reason you don't fit out so completely. Is it so?—A. We mostly always have to fit out once or twice in the bay:

Q. Suppose you had to fit out for the same length of time on the American coast that you have in the gulf, would it cost much less?—A. No, about the same thing.

Q. When you were in the Atlantic in 1867 where did she fish?—A. In the bend of the island, from East Point to North Cape.

Q. How far from the shore have you been fishing?—A. Fishing from ten to fifteen miles off most of the time.

Q. Did you go near shore?—A. Right off Malpeque we ran in.

Q. When you were going in the harbors didn't you fish in the neighborhood around the island?—A. We fished inshore part of the time. The great part of the time off shore, ten or fifteen miles, I should say.

Q. Can you state now where you were longer fishing, whether it was out ten miles, as you say, or near the shore?—A. Most of the time off shore.

Q. What have you to remind you of that?—A. I think because it would take quite a while to run inshore when we wanted to.

Q. What do you call inshore?—A. Two or three miles off.

Q. Can you find out easily whether you are three miles or four miles or five miles off?—A. I don't know how we can.

Q. Suppose you were about five or four miles, would you call that off shore or inshore?—A. I would call it inshore.

Q. Then, what leads you to say you caught about half your trip inshore and half out?—A. Because we did, I suppose. We had a license to fish inshore, and we fished there.

Q. You were not afraid of going in there; so long as you found fish you fished there?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, you had no reason whatever, had you, to take a note of the quantity taken inshore or outshore—what reminds you now of the fact?—

A. I don't know anything to remind me, only that we fished about half the time off shore, and caught about as many fishing off shore as in.

Q. In your second trip did you follow about the same spots as in the first trip?—A. We went to North Cape, Esecuminac, and West Shore.

Q. How far from shore?—A. Sometimes we would be in sight of land and sometimes off shore.

Q. Well, if you were called upon to state what proportion you caught inshore and what proportion off shore?—A. We caught them mostly off shore.

Q. Well, that is not very definite?—A. We might have got 50 of the 250 barrels inshore.

Q. Not more than that? In the Eliza Poor you got more inshore than that?—A. Yes.

Q. Both years?—A. Yes.

Q. The mackerel that you caught on the American coast—did you salt it, or was it sold fresh?—A. It was salted.

Q. How many trips did you make during the five months?—A. We carried about 250 barrels a trip—from 50 to 250. The largest trips were 250.

Q. Since 1870 you have not fished on the American coast. What use did you make of the time during these years?—A. I worked on shore part of the time, and part of the time I fished.

Q. From 1870 to 1877 you did not fish at all?—A. 1877?

Q. The last time you came in the bay was 1870?—A. Well, I fished on our coast.

Q. During that interval?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you fish last year?—A. Yes.

Q. What was your catch?—A. 900 or 1,000 barrels.

Q. What distance from the coast generally is the mackerel taken on the American shore?—A. Mostly off shore.

Q. For the last year or two?—A. The most of our fish are abroad off.

No. 47.

DEXTER F. WALSH, of Belfast, Me., fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You live at Portland?—Answer. No, at Belfast.

Q. You were in the Eliza Poor?—A. Yes.

Q. What was the first year you were ever mackereling in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. 1867.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. 300.

Q. Where?—A. At Magdalens.

Q. Anywhere else?—A. We caught about all there, I think.

Q. Take 1869, what vessel were you in?—A. In the Morning Star, Captain Moore.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take?—A. I think we took, in 1869, 240 barrels in two trips.

Q. How long were you here?—A. About four months in the bay.

Q. Where were these taken?—A. At the Magdalens mostly.

Q. Where else?—A. I don't remember fishing anywhere else—West Shore and Prince Edward Island.

Q. In 1876 you were in the gulf again?—A. No.

Q. Were you not in the gulf last year?—A. Yes.

Q. In what schooner?—A. The Alice M. Gould.

Q. How long were you here?—A. Four months, two trips—one for cod and one for mackerel.

Q. How long were you in the gulf mackereling?—A. Two months.

Q. How many men have you had?—A. 14 mackereling.

Q. How many barrels have you got?—A. 40.

Q. In two months?—A. Yes.

Q. Where were these taken?—A. At Port Hood, Cape George, and East Point.

Q. I need not ask you whether you made any money last year?—A. I was cook and made \$50 a month.

Q. But from catches was any money made?—A. No. The crew came home in debt.

Q. Not only the vessel but the crew?—A. The vessel and the crew both.

Q. This year you have been in the Eliza Poor?—A. Since the 4th of August.

Q. We have had an account of the trip; I think I won't go over that again.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Were you master of these vessels?—A. No.

Q. You were in the Morning Star in 1869. Who was her captain then?—A. George Moore.

Q. When you were there this year how many barrels did you take?—A. 120.

Q. Where were you fishing?—A. Around the west shore of Prince Edward Island, and Escuminac, some around East Point.

Q. Every year there are more or less got there?—A. Yes.

Q. The first year, '67, you were not there at all?—A. No; at the Magdalens.

Q. And since that you have been generally fishing those grounds?—A. Yes. The second year we fished mostly at the Magdalens.

Q. The last year you have been fishing over this ground?—A. Yes. I haven't been at the Magdalens this year at all.

Q. When; '76?—A. No; I was not there last year.

Q. Why didn't you go there last year and this year?—A. I don't know why.

Q. The fleet was fishing around East Point and Port Hood?—A. We had news from the Magdalens that they were not doing anything there, I suppose. We generally know what is going on all round the bay.

Q. You got a very small catch last year?—A. Yes.

Q. That was not the average?—A. Yes, I think it was.

Q. What time did you go in?—A. We went in, I think, some time about the 15th of August.

Q. You missed the best catches of the year?—A. We were cod-fishing when the best mackereling was going on. All the vessels did poorly anyway. Only a few vessels got a trip.

Q. In '69 you were off the island too?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you catch many off the island shore?—A. No. We got most of our trip off the Magdalens.

Q. How far off the island did the boats fish?—A. Four or five miles.

Q. The last witness said half a mile to a mile and a half or two miles?—A. They fished all distances.

Q. Why did you say four miles, then? Have you seen them over a mile or two or three miles?—A. Yes.

Q. Is not that generally the distance they fish?—A. I could not say.

Q. Why; haven't you been sufficiently long?—A. I have seen them fishing inside and outside of three miles.

Q. Haven't you been there sufficiently long this season and last season to see?—A. I should say the boats we saw this year were fishing three miles off.

Q. But you got your fish inside?—A. Some of them.

Q. The boats were outside of you?—A. Sometimes they were.

Q. How far would you be off when the boats would be outside of you?—A. Perhaps a mile.

Q. Then they might be outside of you and still be well within three miles?—A. Yes.

Q. You give it as your evidence that most of the time the boats were four miles from land; and when you say that you caught none within three miles, you mean that you caught them at the same distance as the boats?—A. Some of them fished four miles off and some further.

Q. The bulk I mean; do you mean that?—A. Yes; they fished four or five miles off.

Q. Do you know Charles H. Brien, who was examined here?—A. Yes.

Q. He stated that the boats fished from half a mile to a mile or two. Did he tell the truth or not?—A. I have seen them as near as that.

Q. You don't agree with him?—A. Yes, I do.

No. 48.

LAWRENCE LONDRIGAN, of St. Mary's Bay, Newfoundland, fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You were born in Newfoundland?—Answer. Yes.

Q. How long have you been away from there?—A. Three years this coming fall.

Q. How old are you?—A. Twenty-eight or twenty-nine years last fall.

Q. What did you do the first year you left Newfoundland?—A. The first year I was in America. I trawled on the coast of Maine.

Q. What schooner?—A. Liberator.

Q. From what port did she sail?—A. Westport, Me.

Q. You went trawling for what?—A. Codfish and hake principally.

Q. Whereabouts did you trawl?—A. Off the coast of Maine and along Seal Island Bay.

Q. You made short trips?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you getting fish to salt?—A. To sell green.

- Q. To be salted ?—A. We salted them ourselves.
- Q. What bait did you use ?—A. The first summer we used clams and afterwards pogies and menhaden.
- Q. Salted ?—A. The clams were salted, but the pogies were kept in ice.
- Q. Not sliver ?—A. We iced them ourselves.
- Q. What were you doing last year ?—A. I was mackereling last summer.
- Q. In what vessel ?—A. Lizzie Poore.
- Q. On the United States coast ?—Yes.
- Q. What were you doing last winter ?—A. I left to go in a vessel for frozen herring last December.
- Q. What is the name of the vessel ?—A. J. W. Roberts.
- Q. Where did she hail from ?—A. Rockport, Me.
- Q. Who was her captain ?—A. P. Conley.
- Q. When did she start from Rockport ?—A. 26th December.
- Q. How long were you gone ?—A. We were at Beaver Harbor and round Grand Manan about two weeks.
- Q. Were other vessels there ?—A. Yes.
- Q. How many ?—A. Electric Flash, Madawaska Maid, Mary Turner, Episcatawa.
- Q. How many frozen herring did you get ?—A. 300,000.
- Q. Where did you obtain them ?—A. Some were bought frozen and some we bought green and took ashore, and some we froze on the deck of the vessel.
- Q. What did you pay for them ?—A. For most of them fifty cents a hundred ; for about 25,000, forty five cents a hundred.
- Q. Did you catch any yourselves ?—A. No, we had no means of catching any.
- Q. You purchased them for money ?—A. Yes, for money.
- Q. This summer you have been in the Lizzie Poore ?—A. Yes.
- Q. Have you any idea what your share is going to be ?—A. No, I have not the slightest.

By Mr. Davies :

- Q. The fish you bought down at Grand Manan were frozen partly on deck and partly on shore ?—A. Yes, and some were bought frozen.
- Q. Those you bought in a green state you landed ?—A. Some of them.
- Q. And froze them there yourselves, and then transferred them to the vessel ?—A. Yes.

No. 49.

RICHARD HOPKINS, of Belfast, Me., fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot :

- Question. How old are you ?—Answer. Sixty-three years.
- Q. Where do you live ?—A. At Belfast.
- Q. Were you born there ?—A. No, at Vinehaven.
- Q. How far is that from Belfast ?—A. Thirty-five miles.
- Q. How many years have you been fishing ?—A. Forty years.
- Q. What vessel are you now in ?—A. Esperanza.
- Q. When did she come here ?—A. On Wednesday, I think.
- Q. Who is captain of the vessel ?—A. Captain Smalley.
- Q. She came from the gulf. How long have you been there ?—A. About five weeks.

Q. What sort of a catch have you had?—A. A small catch.

Q. How many barrels?—A. One hundred and ten barrels. Ten hands.

Q. What is the tonnage of the vessel?—A. Forty-four tons.

Q. Where did you fish during that trip?—A. We fished mostly up to the north part of Prince Edward Island.

Q. When you say you fished to the north part of the island, did you do much fishing within three miles of the coast?—A. Not much within three miles.

Q. What portion of the 110 barrels did you catch within three miles of the shore?—A. I should say about three-quarters off shore.

Q. And about one-quarter inshore?—A. About one-quarter inshore. What I call inshore is two or three miles off.

Q. Do you think you gave a fair trial to the inshore fishery? Did you fish enough inshore to test the inshore fishery?—A. Yes. We went in to see if there were fish there.

Q. During the forty years you have been fishing, have you been fishing for mackerel or for cod, or for both?—A. A little at both.

Q. Have you been cod-fishing and then mackerel-fishing, or doing both together?—A. I have been employed in the fishing business most part of the time.

Q. Of the forty years you have been fishing, how many years were you in the gulf?—A. I think twenty-five seasons.

Q. Do you find fishing in the bay to-day what it used to be in old times?—A. No.

Q. What is the difference?—A. Mackerel are not so plentiful as they used to be.

Q. Of the twenty-five years you have fished there, what proportion of your fish did you catch outside, and what proportion within three miles of the shore?—A. I never saw a large deck of fish, during the time I was there, caught very near the shore. They were mostly small decks. The best fishing I have seen was on what we call Bank Bradley.

Q. That has been during the whole of the time you have been fishing?—A. Yes. I should say that nearly three-fourths of the fish I have taken in the bay have been taken off shore, 8, 15, 25, and 30 miles off.

Q. During those forty years have you done much fishing on the United States coast?—A. Yes; I have fished a good deal in the States during that time.

Q. Do you mean the coast of Maine, or clear down where the mackerel go?—A. The coast of Maine.

Q. You have not done much fishing on the shore from Cape Cod to Hatteras?—A. No.

Q. Or off on the Georges?—A. No.

Q. You could not really compare the coast-fishing with the bay-fishing, from what you have seen of it?—A. No.

Q. You don't know much of the United States coast-fishing?—A. No.

Q. When you did fish off that coast, was it with seine or hand line?—A. Hand line.

Q. Then you don't know anything about seine fishing, which has come in of late years?—A. I have not been seining.

Q. With regard to your fishing in the bay. What did you find to be the best fishing-ground in the bay, during the forty years you have tried there?—A. I think I have caught most fish at Magdalen Islands.

Q. Are the Magdalen Islands a tolerably safe place?—A. I consider them about as safe as any part of the bay where you get mackerel.

Q. As safe as the Bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes; safer.

Q. Why?—A. The Bend of Prince Edward Island is not a very safe

place to fish unless you are well acquainted with the harbors, which are hard to get into in a storm.

Q. Do you know anything about the shore boat-fishing at Prince Edward Island?—A. No; I don't know more about it than that I have seen them off fishing a great many times in going up and down the shore.

Q. How far off did you meet the small boats?—A. One, two, three, or four miles off.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. You have been fishing a good many years, and you seem to have preferred the gulf fishing to that on the American coast?—A. I have been in the gulf eighteen seasons mackereling.

Q. I thought you said twenty-five seasons?—A. I was eighteen seasons mackereling, and the balance fishing for codfish.

Q. Have you fished in Bay Chaleurs proper?—A. Yes; I have been in Chaleurs Bay.

Q. Some of the witnesses have spoken of Chaleurs Bay as a pretty good fishing-ground; would you state it to be a pretty fair fishing-ground?—A. Well, I don't think it is a very good place to fish in. I never fished as much there as below; not half as much.

Q. What is the matter with it?—A. We never could find mackerel the same as in other places.

Q. Did you try it of late years or further back?—A. I have not fished there much within ten years.

Q. Previous to that you fished there?—A. Yes, more.

Q. Every year more or less?—A. Yes.

Q. When you were in Chaleurs Bay and found poor fishing, did you go far up?—A. Not a great way up; not more than 10 or 15 miles up the bay.

Q. What are the boundaries of Chaleurs Bay—from Miscou Point to Port Daniel?—A. Yes.

Q. When you have been fishing there, did you ever go along the shores?—A. Yes, we followed along the shores on both sides.

Q. The fleet used to fish there?—A. Yes, on both sides; but not very handy in to those shores, for we never could find fish very handy in to those shores.

Q. The center of the bay is as good fishing ground as the sides?—A. The center of the bay is fully better.

Q. Your fish were caught mostly in the center of the bay, I suppose?—A. Yes, mostly down at the mouth of the bay.

Q. You have not followed up the bay at all?—A. No.

Q. Perhaps you never went up at all?—A. Yes, I have gone up as far as Paspebiac.

Q. How many times?—A. Eight or ten times.

Q. Was the fleet accustomed to fish down at the mouth of the bay or to go up?—A. During the latter part of the season they fish below.

Q. What do you mean?—A. I never was there fishing in the fore part of the season.

Q. Then you don't know?—A. Not for the first part of the season. The latter part of the season they fish below.

Q. Do you know whether any bait which the fish follow is to be found round the shores—brit, for instance?—A. Yes, I have seen them in the water frequently.

Q. Where do you find them?—A. You see them on the fishing ground.

Q. I mean in the bay. Do you find them in round that shores?—A. I never took notice whether they were about in that bay much. Probably I have seen them. I don't recollect about it now.

Q. Leaving Bay Chaleurs, have you fished along the west coast of New Brunswick?—A. Not much.

Q. We have had evidence that some of the fleet fished there. Was your vessel among them?—A. A good many vessels go where I don't see them during the time they are in the bay.

Q. Did you go further north than Bay Chaleurs—to Bonaventure and up round the River St. Lawrence?—A. I have been at Bonaventure several times.

Q. Have you been up at Seven Islands?—A. No.

Q. You never fished at Seven Islands?—A. No; I have never been there.

Q. Have you been master of a vessel?—A. I have been pilot and master of a vessel in the bay six times only.

Q. Have you been along the shore of River St. Lawrence?—A. Not much.

Q. That part of the fisheries you don't know about?—A. I do not.

Q. Whether the fish are taken inshore or out you cannot say, not having been there?—A. I have been round Anticosti fishing; we never did much there.

Q. Fishing for mackerel round Anticosti?—A. Mackereling. I never did much there.

Q. Coming down to Cape Breton; you have been at Margaree, of course?—A. Yes.

Q. At what time of year did you generally go to fish there?—A. In the fall.

Q. Is there any particular time when fishermen run to Margaree?—

A. At the last of August and September.

Q. Is Sydney one of the places you went to?—A. I never fished there.

Q. Have you fished off Port Hood?—A. I have.

Q. And from Cheticamp down to Margaree?—A. Yes.

Q. You have also fished at Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes.

Q. What parts of the island do you prefer?—A. At East Point, and between that and the Chapels.

Q. Between the two Chapels is good fishing ground?—A. Yes. We found some there this season.

Q. The fleet generally go there more or less?—A. I have seen small fleets there, never a large fleet.

Q. Have you been in any of the harbors along Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you fished off Rustico and Malpeque?—A. Not much off Rustico, some off Malpeque.

Q. And off Cascumpeque?—A. Very little.

Q. Off North Cape?—A. Yes.

Q. Off Miminegash?—A. Yes.

Q. You took fish more or less at the different places where you went?—A. Yes.

Q. Is Margaree considered by fishermen to be very good fishing ground?—A. It has not been very good of late years.

Q. Was it formerly so considered?—A. I have seen good fishing there.

Q. I believe the fishing grounds are changing. For instance, this year you have not been to Bank Bradley?—A. No.

Q. Why did you not go there?—A. We had heard from there.

Q. That nothing was to be had there?—A. I have not heard of anything being taken there.

Q. The same with Bank Orphan. You have not been there this year?—A. No.

Q. Have you been at the Magdalen Islands?—A. In sight of them.

Q. You did not catch anything there?—A. No.

Q. So the fish are not now so much at the old places where you used to find them 20 years ago?—A. No.

Q. In what direction is the change tending? Are the fish nearer the shore than they used to be years ago?—A. I don't think any nearer than they used to be—not the body of the fish.

Q. This year about one-half of your catch was taken near the shore?—A. We did not get but very few of ours inshore this season.

Q. Did the fleet use purse-seines in deep water?—A. I did not see a seine hove in the bay.

Q. Why don't they use purse-seines in deep water if the fish are there?—A. I don't know. They don't very often heave them till they see the mackerel when schooling.

Q. Did you see any mackerel schooling there in deep water?—A. I did not.

Q. And therefore you did not throw your purse-seine?—A. We did not have a seine to throw. We had hand lines.

Q. What character are the fish you have got? What qualities—No. 1, No. 2, or No. 3?—A. I should say they would go by the cull here about one-half 2's and one-half 1's.

Q. Is that what you call a fair average for the catch?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it better than the average catch as regards quality?—A. The quality is not so good. I have been here a great many falls when three-quarters would be 1's.

Q. Would I be correct in assuming that of the fish caught by your vessels in the bay three-quarters are 1's?—A. Not this season.

Q. Generally?—A. Yes, as a general thing they used to be so in the fall, say from 1st August up to to 20th October.

Q. About three-quarters 1's and the others 2's?—A. Yes, that used to be about the average.

Q. I suppose you left the bay on account of the storm of the 22d?—A. There have been no fish caught since then.

Q. Did the storm cause you to leave?—A. We left because there was no mackerel.

Q. Before the storm came on the mackerel were there?—A. The mackerel were going—pretty well thinning out, I suppose, by the appearance of things.

Q. After the storm of the 22d they disappeared?—A. I saw none after the storm.

Q. Is it not customary for mackerel to disappear after a storm?—A. Not in all cases. It was getting late for them.

Q. I have heard it stated that when a storm comes on the mackerel generally disappear, and you don't see them for some days?—A. That is a common thing.

Q. You saw mackerel before the storm of the 22d?—A. Yes.

Q. They were not seen afterwards?—A. The day before the storm I saw mackerel and caught some.

Q. Did you see any afterwards?—A. No.

Q. So that it always, or very nearly always, happens that after a heavy storm you do not see mackerel for some days, do you?—A. No; but after a week's time you should see them if they are there.

Q. They return after a week's time?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there any difficulty in ascertaining the distance from the land?

For instance, if you were out 2, 3, or 4 miles would there be any difficulty in telling the distance from the shore?—A. Well, no, not much difficulty about telling it.

Q. You think there would be no difficulty in telling whether you were two, three, or four miles off?—A. You can tell when you are out ten miles from land. When you are off ten miles Prince Edward Island, it looks low.

Q. Is there any difficulty when you are two, three, or four miles off, in ascertaining where you are exactly?—A. When you get the opinion of four or five men you can judge within a mile or half a mile.

Q. You think it would require the opinions of four or five men?—A. To see how they agree on it. Some might say they were four or five miles out, when they were not more than two miles from shore.

Q. They might think they were four or five miles out when they were only two?—A. Yes.

Q. One witness told us that a great many fish were taken four miles from land, and that there was good fishing-ground four miles out; is that a fact?—A. Who was it said so?

Q. A witness who was examined here to-day. What do you think of the statement that there is a very good fishing-ground just four miles out?—A. There might be, but I don't know where it is.

Q. You have been many years on the American coast?—A. Yes.

Q. Fishing mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. How many miles from the coast did you as a general rule take your mackerel?—A. I have been out 60 miles.

Q. Is that the general distance?—A. No.

Q. What is the general distance?—A. Probably from 15 to 20 miles off.

Q. Are there many traps and pounds along the coast for catching mackerel?—A. No.

Q. You don't know about those, for you have not fished along the shores?—A. I never fished along the shore much.

Q. You have never been employed in connection with traps and pounds?—A. No.

Q. Do you know if much mackerel is caught in the traps and pounds?—A. No.

Q. What years were you fishing on the American coast?—A. I was there a year ago this fall.

Q. What other years?—A. I was fishing there three years ago this fall.

Q. Five years ago, were you there then?—A. Yes.

Q. Was the fishing you had then pretty good?—A. Yes, very good.

Q. Has it been increasing or diminishing?—A. It has increased.

Q. Within what time?—A. Up to one year ago. This season it has been nothing scarcely.

Q. Nothing at all?—A. There has been some fishing.

Q. Were 1875 and 1876 very good years?—A. Yes.

Q. How were 1870 and 1871?—A. The fishing was fair.

Q. What do you call fair?—A. It was just about an average of the last fifteen years.

Q. Have you noticed any decrease in fishing on that coast within the last ten years?—A. Some seasons the fishing was not as good, but mackerel have been there during that time.

Q. The mackerel have not been taken, but may have been in the water?—A. Yes.

Q. When you were in Bay St. Lawrence were you in the same vessel all the time?—A. No, different vessels.

Q. What vessels were you in?—A. It would take me some time to remember all the names. There were Castlemaine, S. S. Lewis, City Blee, Bloomer, Clara, Lapwing, Forest Queen, Oak Grove.

Q. What year were you in the Forest Queen?—A. I think it was 1854.

Q. You were not in her in 1864, were you?—A. No.

Q. What year were you in the Oak Grove?—A. The first year of the war, I think.

Q. That would be 1861?—A. Yes.

Q. Who was the captain?—A. Captain Burgess.

Q. Any other vessel?—A. Circassian.

Q. What catch did you take in the Oak Grove?—A. About 160 barrels, I think. I know it was a small trip.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1867 and 1868?—A. I was there in 1863.

Q. Had your vessel a license?—A. No.

Q. What was her name?—A. I think her name was the same as the vessel I am now in—Esperanza.

Q. Then you had no license when in the gulf any of those years?—A. No.

Q. How do you know that the vessels had no license?—A. The crew had always to pay part of the license fee, and I do not pay any.

Q. Do you attach much importance to the bay fishing? Do you value it much as a privilege?—A. It has not been much of a privilege to me for the two or three last trips I have made there.

Q. Speaking generally as a fisherman of the United States, do you think the right to go down to the bay to fish is of much value?—A. It does not seem to be much of late years.

Q. I don't mean to limit you to this year or last year, but I mean the right of fishing generally?—A. For the last four years there have been but very few American vessels fishing in the bay.

Q. Do you look upon it as a valuable fishing-ground; you seem to have devoted most of your life to it in preference to anything else apparently?—A. People have a great many minds about that. They might think it valuable when they started to go there, and afterwards think it is not.

Q. What is the general opinion among fishermen—that it is valuable or not?—A. They think it has not been very valuable lately. I used to think it was valuable once.

Q. The catches were very large at one time?—A. Pretty good some seasons.

Q. The years the catches were large you considered it valuable, and the years the catches were small you did not consider it valuable?—A. Yes. When there was good fishing, and the fish fetched fair prices, it was a valuable fishery.

Q. Do you think the privilege of going to the bay is one of any value?—A. It has not been so for the last three or four years, but before that I think a man would do as well there as going anywhere fishing.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. Mr. Davies has been very anxious to know what you think of the value of the privilege of fishing in the bay. Do you think it would be worth while for the government and people of the United States to pay one million dollars a year for the privilege of fishing in it?—A. No, I do not.

Q. Mr. Davies asked you if you had this year seen any of the fish schooling out off shore, and you told him no. Have you seen any mackerel schooling inshore?—A. I did not see a school of mackerel while I was there.

Q. Either inshore or out?—A. No.

Q. Have you seen any of the horse mackerel this year in the bay?—A. No.

Q. Mr. Davies asked you also about fishing along the coast of Prince Edward Island, and you spoke of fishing about East Point back and forth. How far off did you fish, as a rule, when you fished at the island?—A. This season?

Q. Yes.—A. All the way from six to eight and ten miles.

Q. Mr. Davies asked you why you had not been to Banks Bradley and Orphan this year, and you said there were no fish there. Did you mean to say that the fishing at Banks Bradley and Orphan has fallen off, as a general rule, or only this year?—A. I was not there, but I understood there was not anything there. I learned that by other vessels.

Q. This year?—A. At that time.

Q. You told Mr. Davies you thought in old times that about three-fourths of the mackerel caught in the bay used to be No. 1's—how far back do you mean? Do you refer to this year, last year, or year before, or a good while back?—A. A good while back.

Q. How many years back?—A. Twenty or thirty.

Q. You were also asked whether you left the bay on account of the storm, and you said no?—A. We did not leave on account of the storm.

Q. Then you were asked whether, as a rule, mackerel did not disappear, when a storm came up, for a week, and were not to be found; had you found any mackerel just before the storm?—A. Yes; I caught some the day before.

Q. Anything like a large catch?—A. No; a very small one.

Q. Now, with regard to the difficulty of measuring distances. What do you think would be the value of a man's opinion who stood on shore and said a vessel was three miles or three miles and a half off?—A. He would not have so good a chance to be right as if he was standing on a vessel and looking at the shore.

Q. It is in all cases a very uncertain sort of calculation?—A. Yes; when the land is high it is more deceiving.

Q. Have you not found yourself deceived very often in the measurement of distances?—A. Yes.

Q. What do you think would be the value of a man's judgment in stating that he stood on shore and saw a fleet of 200, 300, 400, or 500 vessels fishing within three miles of land?—A. It would not amount to much.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Did you understand what Mr. Trescot said to you?—A. He asked me what I thought the judgment of a man would be worth about the distance of a fleet of vessels off from the shore; it would be uncertain whether they would be within three miles or two miles.

Q. What was the first year you came to the bay?—A. I think 1827 I did not go after mackerel, but codfish.

Q. What was the first year you were in the bay for mackerel?—A. In 1835, I think.

Q. Were the mackerel better then than in 1845 or 1855?—A. No.

Q. Not so good?—A. I don't think they were.

Q. They were better about 1860?—A. Yes; somewhere about then.

Q. And from that down to 1865 or 1870?—A. Yes; and since that time not as good.

Q. Those are the years they were better?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. Suppose a fleet of 200 or 250 vessels were fishing off shore, what space would be covered?—A. Sometimes when they are snugly together, they don't cover a very large body of water; and you can scatter them over a large surface. It depends on how snugly they are together.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. The first year you went into the bay cod-fishing, had you heard of mackerel-fishing there?—A. No. There was hardly a vessel from the States in the bay then.

Q. Had you heard of mackerel-fishing there; had it begun then?—A. No; there was not much caught at that time.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. What year were you first in the bay for mackerel?—A. In 1835. In 1827 there was nothing doing in mackerel-fishing.

No. 50.

GEORGE O. CLARK, of Belfast, Me., fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You are one of the sharesmen of the Lizzie Poore?—Answer. Yes.

Q. How many years before that had you been in the gulf fishing?—A. Seven or eight years.

Q. What was the last year before this summer you were there?—A. 1870.

Q. In what schooner?—A. Banner, of Belfast, Captain McFarlane.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you catch?—A. About 160 or 165.

Q. And where were they taken?—A. Mostly round North Cape and the Bend of Prince Edward Island.

Q. What portion, if any, was taken within three miles of the shore?—A. 15 or 20 barrels.

Q. Where were those taken?—A. They were not taken a great way inside of three miles; about three miles off Kildare, this side of North Cape.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1869?—A. No.

Q. In 1868?—A. Yes.

Q. In what schooner?—A. Charles E. Moody, Frankford, Capt. Thos. Clark.

Q. How many barrels did she take?—A. About 200 barrels.

Q. Where were they taken?—A. Off Bonaventure, broad off.

Q. Were any of them taken within three miles of the shore?—A. No.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1867?—A. Yes.

Q. In what schooner?—A. Mary Lowe, of Gloucester, Captain Adams.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. About 250, I think.

Q. Where were those taken?—A. At Magdalen Islands, East Point, Margaree, and Cape North.

Q. If you took any of them inshore, state where you took them and

how many?—A. We got about 50 barrels at East Point, from 3 to 8 miles out; about the same number at the Magdalen Islands. From East Point to Port Hood we got a few going across, and from there down to Cape North we got the rest of the catch, about 150 barrels.

Q. Do you say you were at Margaree?—A. Yes.

Q. How near the shore did you take mackerel there?—A. About three miles off.

Q. Three miles from the mainland or the island?—A. From the island.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1866?—A. Yes.

Q. In what schooner?—Atlantic, of Bedford, Captain Coombs.

Q. How many barrels did you catch?—A. About 60 barrels.

Q. Where did you get them?—A. At the Magdalen Islands.

Q. How long were you in the bay?—A. About six weeks.

Q. What was your earliest trip to the bay?—A. In 1858.

Q. How many times between 1858 and 1866 were you in the bay?—A. Three times.

Q. When were you next there before 1866?—A. In 1860.

Q. In what schooner?—A. Abegail, Captain Dunbar. We were fishing for both cod and mackerel.

Q. On the same trip?—A. Yes.

Q. How long were you in the gulf that year?—A. About three months.

Q. Do you remember what you took?—A. 20 quintals of cod and 4 or 5 barrels of mackerel. We were not really catching mackerel. We fitted out for codfish.

Q. What bait had you?—A. We caught mackerel for bait.

Q. Where did you fish for cod?—A. Away up Madeleine River.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1859?—A. Yes; In President, of Belfast, Capt. Conway.

Q. Were you fishing for mackerel?—A. For codfish and mackerel.

Q. How much mackerel and how much codfish did you take?—A. I guess about 150 quintals of codfish and about 150 barrels of mackerel.

Q. Where did you take the mackerel?—A. Off Bonaventure.

Q. Within what distance of the shore?—A. Just in, right off the hills.

Q. In 1858 what schooner were you in?—A. Columbia, of Belfast, Capt. McFarlane.

Q. Fishing for mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you get?—A. I believe we got about 200 barrels.

Q. How old were you then?—A. 12 years.

Q. Do you remember what was your fishing ground?—A. Off North Cape and the Bend of Prince Edward Island.

Q. How near the shore at the bend of the island?—A. I should think about 3 or 4 miles out.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Did you ever fish in Bay Chaleurs?—A. We have been into Ship-pegan for a harbor.

Q. You never fished up in the bay?—A. Not up in there.

Q. Then you know nothing about the fishing there?—A. No.

Q. Have you ever heard of the fleet going there to fish?—A. I believe they have been there.

Q. Have you ever fished at Seven Islands?—A. No, I don't know where they are.

Q. Nor up St. Lawrence River?—A. I have been away up there fishing.

Q. Fishing for mackerel?—A. For cod and mackerel.

Q. How far from the shore did you catch the mackerel there?—A. We caught them inshore. We caught them for bait.

Q. How far out?—A. One mile.

Q. When you were down at Cape Breton and Margaree, how far were you off from the island?—A. From 4 to 10 miles.

Q. You told Mr. Foster from three to ten?—A. He did not ask me anything about Cape Breton. He asked me the distance from Margaree Island.

Q. Then you were four miles from Cape Breton, and three miles from Margaree?—A. Yes.

Q. Could you tell the distance exactly or accurately?—A. No, I could not tell exactly.

Q. You had no reason for giving any special attention to it?—A. No.

Q. You may have been two miles or four miles out?—A. I might have been two miles and I might have been five.

Q. I suppose special attention is not given to the exact distance you are off shore. You don't pretend to measure?—A. No.

Q. When you spoke of off shore and inshore generally, it may have been two or four miles, you cannot tell?—A. Yes.

Q. You have been round Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes.

Q. And fished in the same way there, from two to five miles out, off and on?—A. Yes, from three to five miles and eight miles, according to how the weather was.

Q. If the fish had been plentiful would you have gone in?—A. I suppose we would if fish had been plentiful.

Q. At what distance out do the boats fish—two or three miles?—A. From one mile to three or four miles.

Q. I suppose you would be often fishing in among the boats?—A. No, we hardly ever went in among the boats.

Q. You never fished much about Rustico?—A. No, we never fished round at Rustico.

Q. At what parts of the island did you fish?—A. Off East Point, Georgetown, up at the Two Chapels, off New London, Malpeque, Cascumpeque, Kildare, North Cape, and from there to West Cape.

Q. All round the shores of the island?—A. Yes.

Q. Where were you the year you got 60 barrels in the Atlantic?—A. Mostly over at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Had you a license that year to fish?—A. No.

Q. You did not try anywhere else?—A. We fished a little off Cape George.

Q. That trip appears to have been a great failure?—A. Yes.

No. 42.

MONDAY, *October* 8, 1877.

The Conference met.

Examination of ROBERT H. HULBERT, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, resumed.

By Mr Foster :

Question. When your examination ended on Friday, I was inquiring of you as to the fishery on the coast of Maine in the neighborhood of Mount Desert. Over how large a territory on the coast of Maine does the mackerel fishery extend, and how long does it last there?—Answer. Somewhere in the neighborhood of 90 miles, and perhaps more than that. I could not say for certain, for I never remember distances or courses.

Q. Ninety miles from what?—A. Ninety miles along the coast.

Q. Along about where?—A. Portland principally, and from there to Mount Desert.

Q. How many months does it last?—A. The principal part of that fishing is from July 1 to August 25.

Q. How far out to sea does it extend?—A. Somewhere in the neighborhood of sixty miles.

Q. Could you give a general idea of what portion of all the mackerel that go into the markets of Maine and Massachusetts, and are inspected, are caught between Mount Desert and Block Island, including the Banks, offshore?—A. Probably, seven-eighths of all the mackerel inspected.

Q. Do you include in that the mackerel which come from Bay St. Lawrence?—A. No; only those that are caught on the United States coast.

Q. Then, on our coast, the fishing for mackerel does not go much farther north than Mount Desert?—A. Nothing of any consequence. Probably there are some mackerel go north of that, but very few of our vessels go after it.

Q. About what season of the year, along from Mount Desert to Massachusetts coast, is the fishing at its height?—A. In July and August.

Q. When do the vessels that fish on the United States coast begin to go south again?—A. The last of September, the 25th September generally; it depends a great deal on the weather.

Q. And how far south do they go?—A. We don't follow those mackerel that go on the coast of Maine farther than the mouth of Vineyard Sound; that is near Chatham.

Q. On the north side of Cape Cod?—A. Yes.

Q. And how late do you fish for them off in the vicinity of Chatham?—A. We fish there only a few days, because after the mackerel commence to go down from there they go very fast; unless the weather is very fine we cannot fish at all for them.

Q. What is the latest season of the year when mackerel are fished on the United States coast?—A. Nothing of any account is done after the 15th November.

Q. Where are the mackerel fished so late as that?—A. Sometimes at Block Island, and sometimes in the vicinity of Massachusetts Bay.

Q. Do not your fishermen go farther south than Block Island in autumn, to any extent?—A. No.

Q. What is the quality of the mackerel taken in autumn?—A. They are generally fat, but they begin to decrease after the last of October.

Q. Within what period are the best mackerel taken off Maine, Massachusetts, and Block Island?—A. In September, and till 15th October, perhaps they are the best.

Q. What is the quality of the mackerel taken in the spring before they spawn, everywhere?—A. All No. 3's.

Q. Wherever they are caught?—A. Yes.

Q. You have spoken in your examination of having seen food for mackerel as far out as George's Banks. Will you describe the different kinds of mackerel food you have yourself observed?—A. The largest quantity of food we find in mackerel is lantz. The largest we find are about four inches in length.

Q. Lantz is a kind of sand-eel?—A. Something similar. Then we find what we call all-eyes, a very small fish about half an inch in length. It is a young fish of some kind, I don't know what.

Q. Have you any opinion in regard to what it is?—A. We sometimes

think they are young mackerel. We don't know what they are because they are very young.

Q. Where have you found those all-eyes?—A. In great abundance at Block Island, and often twenty-five miles off the coast of that island.

Q. In what quantities have you found them?—A. They will sometimes cover miles of water. They will be on the surface of the water so that you can pick them up in your hand, and can take five or six in the palm of your hand.

Q. What extent of surface have you found covered with these little fish?—A. We find them from alongside of the vessel till we reach three or four miles off in a boat; we find them the whole distance. I don't know how far they may extend beyond, but quite a distance.

Q. Is there any other food for mackerel?—A. There is what we call cayenne; it is a seed of some kind or spawn.

Q. Is there any other food?—A. Hay-seed or red-seed; it has various names among different classes of people.

Q. What is that?—A. I don't know.

Q. It is animal?—A. It is something that has life, I suppose.

Q. How far out to sea do you find that?—A. On the George's Banks, and even to the north, west, and east of the George's.

Q. Is that found very extensively, or only in small quantities?—A. At some seasons very extensively, and at other seasons there will not be so much. We cannot tell exactly how extensive it may be.

Q. Is there any other mackerel food?—A. Sometimes the mackerel, when down near the bottom, feed on different kinds of fish near the bottom, such as shrimp. You find shrimp in mackerel at different times.

Q. And jelly fish?—A. I don't know that I ever found any jelly fish in them. I have seen mackerel tear them to pieces, but whether they eat them or not I don't know. I have seen mackerel jump at them, but probably it was for some other fish that were round the jelly fish.

Q. You carried fresh mackerel into the New York market?—A. Yes.

Q. That goes packed in ice, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. How many vessels are engaged in the business of carrying fresh mackerel into the New York market?—A. About fifty sail.

Q. And how many are engaged in the same trade for the Boston market?—A. Nearly the same number, to the best of my knowledge.

Q. Are those vessels of the same size as other vessels engaged in the fishing business elsewhere?—A. Smaller vessels run with fresh mackerel to Boston than to New York.

Q. What would you estimate as the average tonnage of vessels engaged in the fresh mackerel trade for New York, and also the average tonnage of vessels engaged in the same trade with Boston?—A. Probably somewhere in the neighborhood of 50 or 55 tons for Boston, and perhaps 10 or 12 tons more for New York, on an average.

Q. Not quite so large as the average of the Cape Ann fleet?—A. No.

Q. Can you give any idea of the quantity of fresh mackerel that goes into the New York market every season?—A. I should say about a fair average would be 40,000 mackerel to a vessel.

Q. Do you mean for the season or trip?—A. For the season.

Q. How many mackerel, such as go into the market, would there be on an average to a barrel?—A. Of such mackerel as were taken there last spring it would take in the neighborhood of 150 on an average to a barrel.

Q. How many fresh mackerel do you think go to the Boston market?—

A. I have not much idea what the quantity is. I don't know that I could come near it.

Q. Do those fresh mackerel vessels make a few long trips or many short trips?—A. They cannot keep out very long for the fish would not keep. They have to run in with the fish while they are good or they will lose them.

Q. About how long are the vessels out?—A. Sometimes a week, and perhaps ten days; not longer than ten days after they get fish on board.

Q. Now, take your experience in fishing for mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. What value would you attach to the right to fish within three miles of the shore in British dominions?—A. What fish do we take inside of three miles?

Q. You can take it in that way or in regard to its value.—A. I could not tell exactly the value because the fish vary in price a great deal.

Q. How important do you regard it?—A. At the outside, I have never in my experience taken more than one-eighth of a fare inside of three miles.

Q. Do you think that seining mackerel perceptibly diminishes the quantity of mackerel found in the sea?—A. I cannot tell exactly, because sometimes I think we kill some very young fish. But seining has been going on a number of years, and even three years ago mackerel were just as plentiful as I ever saw them, and they were quite abundant last year, while this year they are scarce. We cannot account for it.

Q. Have you ever known seining to be carried on successfully in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. No.

Q. Do you know any reason therefor?—A. I hardly know what the reason may be; perhaps it may be the tide, or it may be that the mackerel do not school the same as they do with us. There are various reasons. We don't find many mackerel school on that fishing ground.

Q. So far as it has been tried there, seining has not been successful?—A. No.

Q. Have you ever fished in the vicinity of Seal Island, near Cape Sable?—A. I have fished on that fishing ground for codfish sometimes.

Q. Have you ever fished for halibut there?—A. No.

Q. Within what distance of Seal Island have you ever fished for codfish, and how have you happened to be there?—A. Sometimes we find fish scarce on George's Bank or other Banks where we fish in summer, and we run over there and try; but we hardly ever get inside of from 15 to 25 miles of Seal Island.

Q. What is the shallowest water you ever knew the halibut fishery to be prosecuted in?—A. I could not tell that, because I am not much acquainted with the halibut fishing, though I have been some few voyages.

Q. You don't expect to catch halibut in much shallower water than codfish?—A. No; generally deeper.

Q. And your codfish have not been taken within how far from land?—A. From 15 to 25 miles of Seal Island, and in that vicinity.

Q. You have made cod-fishing voyages; where to and how many, in general terms?—A. I could not tell you exactly how many; quite a number.

Q. Where have you been?—A. To the Grand Banks, Sable Island Banks, and others.

Q. Have you tried both trawling and hand-line fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. What has been your bait?—A. For general use, herring.

Q. And what else?—A. Sometimes we used clams.

Q. Salt clams?—A. Yes; and sometimes squid and menhaden.

Q. Menhaden slivers?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever been in to Newfoundland to buy bait for codfish?—
A. I have been there.

Q. To what port?—A. St. Mary's Bay.

Q. What did you buy?—A. We bought a lot of caplin; that was all we could get.

Q. Was that good bait?—A. No.

Q. Why not?—A. It would not keep any time in ice, and it was too small.

Q. What is the bait used on the George's Banks by codfishermen?—A. For the first three trips in the winter time they take frozen herring, and after that they use alewives and menhaden, which they get in Vineyard Sound.

Q. In regard to the mackerel fishing, what is the bait used for throw bait by mackerel vessels?—A. Menhaden slivers.

Q. How far north is the extreme point where menhaden is caught?—
A. I don't hardly remember, but probably nothing north of Grand Manan Island, and I don't think they go that far.

Q. Can you give us the price of fresh mackerel in New York and Boston markets?—A. I don't know that I can correctly. The prices vary a great deal.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. You are now pilot on board the Speedwell and do not go mackerel fishing now?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you had much experience in the fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence? How many seasons have you been there?—A. I think I have been there five seasons.

Q. And those seasons cover the whole of your experience there?—A. Yes.

Q. In regard to fishing off the American coast your experience has been more extended?—A. Yes.

Q. How many seasons were you there?—A. Five whole seasons, and parts of perhaps five other seasons.

Q. How far from shore were your mackerel taken on the American coast?—A. All the way from 5 to 50 miles from the land and also off the off-shore Banks. George's Banks are 133 miles from Cape Ann, and we find mackerel there and off the northeast edge of the Banks.

Q. Last year and the year before were very good fishing years?—A. Very favorable; we could not complain.

Q. I understand they were exceptionally good?—A. Yes.

Q. What was the condition of the mackerel fishery along the United States coast for the previous eight or ten years; had it been declining?—A. It does not appear to have been.

Q. When you say "it does not appear to have been," do you speak from actual experience?—A. From what I have seen myself.

Q. Did you examine the returns to see the quantity caught?—A. I don't know that I have properly, but as I am amongst the vessels, I have a pretty good chance of knowing how the others have been doing. At the close of every season when the vessels stop seining, I can see the reports of all the vessels and the quantity of fish landed. I have not those in my memory, because I never thought they would be of any assistance to me.

Q. Are you able to state whether there was a decline in the mackerel fishery off the coast of the United States during the seven or eight years previous to 1875?—A. Not to my knowledge; I could not say there was.

Q. Could you say there was not?—A. No.

Q. In reply to Mr. Foster, where did you say seven-eighths of the inspected fish were caught?—A. I said seven-eighths of the inspected fish in Maine and Massachusetts were caught between Block Island and Mount Desert. Block Island is in the State of Rhode Island, and Mount Desert is in Maine.

Q. Do you mean that to include all fish caught by American vessels?—A. I mean fish caught on the coast of the United States. I am not speaking of the fish caught in British waters.

Q. It does not refer to the fish caught by American vessels in British waters?—A. No.

Q. You speak from your practical knowledge, having been on the ground and seen the fish taken?—A. Yes.

Q. You say that seven-eighths of the mackerel caught by American vessels in American waters are caught between those two points?—A. Yes.

Q. And the other one-eighth is taken where?—A. It is taken to the southward of that, between Hatteras and Block Island.

Q. Have you examined the inspection returns?—A. We see them generally every season when the fishing is done.

Q. You have not got any returns with you?—A. No.

Q. When you make your return after a fishing voyage, does that return embrace a statement of the places where the fish were taken?—A. No.

Q. Does it embrace the fact that the fish were taken in American or British waters?—A. It does not.

Q. Then if an American vessel took a cargo of fish into one of their ports, it would not appear from the official returns whether the fish had been caught in British or American waters?—A. We see that a vessel is reported with so many barrels of fish from such a place.

Q. That is in the newspapers?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there any official record kept?—A. There is a record of each vessel kept by the owner.

Q. I understood you to say, speaking with regard to the United States coast, that there is a special school of mackerel in the neighborhood of Block Island, which is known as Block Island mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. And that they remain there the whole season and do not come north?—A. They do not come north; we don't find them north.

Q. I understood you to say that mackerel fishing on the American coast begins in May and does not end till November?—A. It begins as early as 25th April. When it closes depends a great deal on the weather. If there is a blustery, cold autumn, the mackerel will not stay so long; but if there is moderate weather, they will stay till 15th November.

Q. The fish remain on the coast, more or less, during that time?—A. Yes.

Q. And are taken in large and small quantities the whole of that time?—A. Not in large quantities in the latter part of the season; the body of the fish have gone off the coast.

Q. All the fish taken before the spawning season you class as No. 3?—A. Yes; all that are long enough. They are threes and small threes.

Q. When you speak of American vessels fishing in the spring for mackerel off the United States coast, they are fishing for the inferior class of mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. You described the different places where mackerel spawn, and you

said the time of spawning varied at different places along the American coast?—A. Yes.

Q. How do you know that mackerel spawn on George's Shoal?—A. Because there is a certain quantity of them taken there before spawning, and others taken there after spawning.

Q. How do you know they spawn there? Have you seen young mackerel there?—A. I have seen all-eyes, which we suppose are young mackerel, on the George's.

Q. Describe them.—A. It is a very small fish, probably not more than half an inch in length, and its eyes are more conspicuous than any other part of the body. You notice the eyes of the fish when swimming in the water before you observe the body.

Q. You call them all eyes for that reason?—A. Yes.

Q. That is what makes you believe that mackerel spawn on George's Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. Do I understand you to say that there are two schools of mackerel that come along the United States coast and that a distinct school comes along the Maine coast?—A. The fish do not all come in to the coast at one time.

Q. At different times?—A. Yes.

Q. And a little later as you come further north?—A. Yes. The fish do not all strike the coast at one point. Sometimes the mackerel will strike a little to the north of Hatteras, and you will fall in with another school of fish 50 miles north, that will come near the coast, within 50 miles, and perhaps less.

Q. You said you found a body of fish frequenting Nantucket shoals, and you found that body afterwards on George's Banks?—A. We find them sometimes at George's afterward; sometimes they don't get so far eastward as that. We usually find part of them on the George's, at the southwest part.

Q. The mackerel that are found off the coast of Maine remain there until they begin to return to their haunts for the winter, wherever those haunts may be?—A. Yes; the mackerel on the coast of Maine and Massachusetts.

Q. Do you know whether fishermen ever take mackerel in the winter season in muddy places?—A. I have heard of mackerel being taken out of the mud with a spear in the winter time.

Q. Whereabouts?—A. In Cape Cod Bay, Bridgehampton Bay, and in the vicinity of Cape Cod.

Q. Did you ever examine the eye of the mackerel in early spring?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you tell the Commission whether the eye is then in the condition in which you find it afterwards, during the mackerel season, or what difference is there?—A. When we first find the mackerel in early spring, there is always a sort of scale over probably two-thirds of the eye. As the mackerel work north, the scale comes off, and the last mackerel we find, those in the middle of November, have the scale again, covering a quarter of the eye.

Q. It would then seem that in the spring the eye has a film over it, and as the season advances, this works off?—A. Yes.

Q. And as the colder season comes on, the film covers the eye again?—A. It appears that something grows over the eye as the weather grows colder.

Q. Have you heard of mackerel being taken in winter under the ice?—A. I have heard of their being taken when the ice was on the flats, but not when the harbor was frozen.

Q. They were taken from the mud below the ice?—A. Yes; at the deepest part of the island.

Q. When thus taken, would the film be over the eye?—A. I don't know. I only saw one caught in that way, and I did not take notice of that point.

Q. Do you know whether the mackerel winter in the mud?—A. I could not say, but we have reason to think they do. That is the general opinion of fishermen—that the mackerel winter in the mud.

Q. Do the mackerel remain on George's Shoal all the season, as the mackerel do at Block Island?—A. Some seasons they do, and other seasons they remain there only a short time. They have been taken there some years during all the season.

Q. You were five seasons fishing in the gulf, I believe?—A. Yes.

Q. At what special places did you fish while there?—A. The principal part of my fishing in Gulf St. Lawrence was at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. You never fished much in other parts?—A. Not greatly; I have fished in other parts of the bay.

Q. Have you ever fished in Bay Chaleurs?—A. Yes, one summer. We spent one week there one summer.

Q. What year was it?—A. I cannot remember the year.

Q. Can you remember the vessel you were in?—A. I think it was in the Pocumtuc.

Q. That would be some time in 1865?—A. About that time.

Q. Had you any license at that time?—A. I cannot recollect whether we had or not; but I don't remember hearing anything about a license.

Q. Was there much of a fleet in Bay Chaleurs when you were there?—A. No; there were three vessels there.

Q. Where did you go?—A. We went up as far as Port Daniel, on the north side of the bay.

Q. Did you fish close to the shores at all?—A. We tried round in the bay, but we did not find anything.

Q. You did not go on the south side?—A. No.

Q. Did you fish off the Gaspé coast, and up at Bonaventure?—A. I never fished there.

Q. Or at Seven Islands?—A. No.

Q. You don't know anything about those fishing-grounds?—A. No.

Q. Have you tried along the west coast of New Brunswick, from Miscou Point to Miramichi?—A. I fished part of one summer along there.

Q. Did you fish close inshore there?—A. We did not fish close inshore, for the water is too shallow to raise a body of mackerel. We fished from North Cape, Prince Edward Island, to Miscou Island.

Q. Did you fish within three miles of the shore on the west side of New Brunswick?—A. To my certain knowledge, I did not.

Q. Then you don't know anything of that fishing-ground?—A. No.

Q. Have you fished within three miles of the shore at Prince Edward Island?—A. Undoubtedly I have at different times.

Q. And you caught nothing to speak of?—A. Yes; I anchored there many times under the lee of the land at different parts of the island.

Q. You did not catch many mackerel?—A. We never took but very few mackerel inside of what we supposed was three miles off shore, according to the soundings laid down on our chart, and the soundings we found with our lead.

Q. What chart did you use?—A. Eldridge's, mostly.

Q. An American chart?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not use Bayfield's chart?—A. Not much.

Q. From the chart you judged you were within three miles of the shore?—A. That is the way we judged, by our soundings.

Q. You tried the Cape Breton coast?—A. Yes.

Q. How did you find the fishing there?—A. I remember catching some mackerel one season near Margaree Island.

Q. Any quantity to speak of?—A. Somewhere in the neighborhood of 30 or 35 barrels.

Q. Those were all?—A. They were got in one day's fishing at the latter part of the season.

Q. You have already stated that you caught one-eighth of your mackerel inshore; where did you get them?—A. Inside of three miles at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. You never caught any mackerel at all, except 35 barrels, within three miles of the shore, except at the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes; I have caught a few mackerel at different times, within three miles of the land, probably at Prince Edward Island. I have taken mackerel there inshore, in very small quantities, perhaps one barrel or two.

Q. Apart from the barrel or two caught at Prince Edward Island, you never caught any fish within three miles of the shore, but 35 barrels around Cape Breton?—A. That is the largest catch I took, knowing I was within three miles of the land.

Q. Did you catch many within four miles of the land?—A. No.

Q. Did you catch many within five miles?—A. No. You cannot raise a sufficient body of mackerel in less than 20 fathoms of water to lay to and heave bait. I am speaking as I found it.

Q. Do I understand you to say that you cannot raise a large body of mackerel within three or four miles of the shore?—A. I venture to say that I cannot do it, for there is not deep enough water.

Q. Then is it not curious that you can find them around the Magdalen Islands?—A. It is deeper water there than around any part of the coast.

Q. Does not this map (a chart of the coast of North America from the Strait of Belle Isle to Boston, including the banks and islands of Newfoundland) show that the soundings around Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton are deeper than those off Magdalen Islands?—A. I don't know but this map shows that.

Q. Would you say, looking at this map, that within three miles of Magdalen Islands you can find water 20 or 25 fathoms deep?—A. In some parts we do.

Q. Within three miles of the shore?—A. We do. I don't know that I can find it marked 20 fathoms deep.

Q. You have shown why mackerel cannot be caught at Prince Edward Island?—A. I don't say they cannot be caught there. I have caught them there myself in small quantities.

Q. Apart from the two or three barrels, you said mackerel were not to be had there, and you gave as a reason that the water was not deep enough?—A. Sometimes we took them inside of three miles at the Magdalen Islands; sometimes not within fifteen miles of land. It is giving a large proportion to say that one-eighth of my catches were taken within three miles of land.

Q. You did not say that it was giving a large or small proportion?—A. I did not want to put it down too small. I have seen many trips taken when no fish were taken anywhere except at Magdalen Islands, and there pretty well offshore.

Q. You gave evidence that one-eighth of the catch was taken inshore; none appear to have been taken inshore except 35 barrels off Cape Bre-

ton, and two or three barrels off Prince Edward Island?—A. Did I say that two or three barrels were taken off Prince Edward Island, or two or three barrels each time we tried?

Q. Would it surprise you to hear that three-fourths or seven-eighths of the fish caught by boat-fishermen are taken within three miles, and almost within two miles, of the shore?—A. I would be very much so.

Q. Your theory would fall to the ground?—A. I should think so.

Q. Your experience in the gulf is confined to five seasons?—A. That is all; and part of that I remember very little of.

Q. You don't know what the other vessels have taken, or where their catches were taken?—A. No.

Q. You wish to confine your experience to that obtained in your vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. You wish the reason why mackerel could not be taken inshore to be received that it is because the water is too shallow, and that there must be 20 or 25 fathoms?—A. That is the way I caught mackerel myself.

Q. Do you mean that that is with hand-lines or seines?—A. That is with hand-lines. I have never been seining.

Q. Do you know why seines are not successful in the gulf?—A. I don't know. I have heard various reasons given.

Q. Have you ever heard that it was because the mackerel were too close to the shore to enable the seiners to catch them?—A. I have heard that reason.

Q. Have you heard it from fishermen?—A. I don't know but that I have.

Q. Have you any doubt about it?—A. I cannot say I have or that I have not. I may have heard so.

Q. That they cannot seine mackerel because they are in too shallow water?—A. They have been seined there this summer.

Q. To any large extent?—A. I don't know to how large an extent.

Q. Do you know whether any seiners have adapted their seines to the waters of the gulf?—A. I cannot say as to that; I have not been there.

Q. So, practically, you know very little about the fishing in the gulf?—A. I admit I know very little about it, and I will do less than I do now.

Q. You find your present position more profitable than that of a mackerel fisherman?—A. Probably my present position may not continue long.

By Mr. Whiteway :

Q. Have you been many seasons to the Grand Banks fishing?—A. No.

Q. How many times?—A. Perhaps once or twice.

Q. When were those occasions?—A. I cannot give you the dates.

Q. Nor the years?—A. No.

Q. Did you fish with salt or fresh bait?—A. I have been there and fished with salt bait altogether some seasons. When I sailed out of Provincetown I fished with salt bait altogether.

Q. Have you ever used fresh bait on the Grand Banks?—A. I have part of a voyage, part of the season.

Q. Where did you get it?—A. We bought it at Prospect, above Halifax.

Q. What year was it that you went into St. Mary's Bay for caplin?—A. That was the year I was in the Pocumtuc; in the spring we went in there. We did not go in exactly for bait, but in coming out we bought some caplin. I cannot tell you the year.

Q. How many barrels did you buy?—A. About 15 barrels.

Q. That is the only time you used caplin?—A. That is the only time I have used any.

Q. Are you sure the caplin you purchased at that time were perfectly fresh when you put them in ice?—A. I could not say. We got them from one or two boats which came up to us; but whether they had been caught 24 hours before or that morning I could not say.

Q. Suppose other parties who have had experience in the use of caplin for bait packed in ice pronounced it to be a fish which would keep longer than any other, would you be disposed to contradict the statement?—A. No; because I have only tried it once, and I speak as I found it.

Q. You fish with trawls and hand-lines?—A. We were fishing with trawls then.

Q. Fresh bait, I believe, is far superior to salt bait in fishing with trawls?—A. I did not find it so that season. We had salt clams, a very costly bait, and we got our trip on it.

Q. How much did you pay per barrel for that bait?—A. I think \$10 that spring.

Q. Do you remember what you gave for the caplin?—A. From \$1 to \$1.50 per barrel. It was not over \$2.

Q. The season you were fishing, were many American vessels fishing near you?—A. Yes.

Q. Were they using fresh or salt bait?—A. Some with fresh and some with salt bait. Those using fresh bait did not fish where we did. We could not catch fish where they were. We could not catch as many as we could by ourselves.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. You spoke of the mackerel coming at different parts of the year to the coast and spawning?—A. Yes.

Q. They must be different schools of fish, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. They come from the deep waters and go inshore and spawn?—A. Yes.

Q. The fish spawning off Mount Desert would not belong to the same school as those which spawn off Sandy Hook?—A. Certainly not.

Q. Do you take the mackerel on St. George's Bank and the Banks in the gulf where the bottom is rocky and broken, or where it is sandy, or do you take them under both these circumstances?—A. Under both. But I do not know that I ever took much notice of that, because our seines do not go to the bottom, and we have not much idea of what the bottom is.

Q. What is the case with the places which you have described as those where you go?—A. Some are rocky, and more parts are sandy.

Q. Where is this so? Give an instance of it.—A. It is very rocky off Block Island.

Q. And you take them there, as I understand it, rather later in the season than at other places?—A. Yes. There is a place twenty-one miles southeast of Block Island where there is a small bank. A great many cod-fishermen lay there, and it is the best place for the large mackerel to play and show themselves.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Do you consider that the mackerel go actually into the mud?—A. I do not know as they do so.

Q. Do you believe that this is the case?—A. Yes.

Q. But they are not of the nature of a mud fish at all?—A. I do not know that they are.

Q. What do you think as to the theory of mackerel migrating? Do you believe that they go south altogether, or that they merely pass off shore into deep water?—A. I do not think that they go very far south, but rather that they go out to the northern edge of the Gulf Stream.

Q. Do you think that they go altogether there?—A. Probably all do not go; perhaps there are other places where they go; but I think that they go away until they find warm water.

Q. Is that the character of any other fish, to migrate into warm water?—A. We have schools of other kinds of fish that come from the southward; there is the cod, which comes on the Banks.

Q. Is their migration as well established as that of the mackerel?—A. I do not know but that it is.

Q. Have you observed where they strike?—A. I do not know that I have.

Q. What signs have you seen of codfish migrating?—A. Well, I have caught them in different parts, of course.

Q. Are there signs of their migrating? Do they migrate into warm water?—A. I do not think that they do; of course, we find some of them on the Banks, but we do not know where they go to or come from. I cannot tell.

Q. No more than you can with respect to the mackerel?—A. I do not know but this is the case.

Q. You do not know whether the mackerel go into deep water or to the Gulf Stream?—A. I do not know whether they go into the mud at all; that is only what I think is the case.

Q. Have you seen evidence enough in all your experience to satisfy you clearly that the mackerel go into the Gulf Stream or spend their winter elsewhere?—A. I do not know as I could say.

No. 51.

JAMES CURRIE, master mariner and fisherman, of Pictou, was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster :

Question. How old are you?—Answer. Fifty-four.

Q. Have you ever fished for mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. In the bays of Pictou; in what is called the Northumberland Strait, from Cape George to Pictou Island, and from Cape George to Murray Harbor, and also from Pictou Island again to what is called the Gulf Wharf at Arisaig, and clear to the West Cape of Prince Edward Island.

Q. In vessels or in boats?—A. In boats.

Q. How large were they?—A. Some of them were 20 feet keel, and others 22 feet and 25 feet.

Q. How far out from the shore did the boats go when you fished in them?—A. From Pictou Harbor to the East Point of Pictou Island is a distance of 9 miles, and from the latter point to Arisaig Wharf is something like 12 to 15 miles.

Q. From land to land?—A. Yes.

Q. How far out is most of the boat fishing with which you are acquainted, done?—A. All I can tell you is that I have fished close along the shore, and that there we could not get anything worth speaking of.

Q. Estimate the distance out at which you fished.—A. What I call shore fishing is done from half a mile to $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles out, and no quantity

of fish is to be got there, but you can go off shore 3 miles and outside of that, and get fish.

Q. Were you ever a pilot for a government vessel?—A. Yes; this was before confederation—in 1854.

Q. What were the names of the vessel and her captain?—A. Responsible was the vessel's name, and Philip Dodd the name of the captain.

Q. What was this vessel doing while you were pilot?—A. We were looking after the American fishermen.

Q. For what purpose?—A. To see that they did not intrude on the shore fisheries. We cruised on the north side of Prince Edward Island, around on the south side of Cape Breton, and occasionally on the north side of Cape Breton.

Q. How long were you on that vessel?—A. Five or six months, I should say.

Q. Did you find the American vessels fishing within 3 miles of the shore?—A. We did not find any fishing within three miles of the shore; they were all outside of that limit.

Q. Were any seizures made?—A. None were made by the Responsible.

Q. Did you see any made by other vessels?—A. No; but I heard of this being done.

Q. Who owned the Responsible?—A. My father.

Q. And how did the government happen to have her under charge?—A. They chartered her from my father.

Q. Have you seen the boats go off-shore and fish in company with United States vessels?—A. Yes; I saw this occur between Port Hood and Margaree Island, where we used to cruise considerably. I saw Scotch boats, as I call them, pull off and make fast to American schooners, and get a good quantity of fish, loading their boats and going ashore; and that was outside of the three-mile limit.

Q. You saw them made fast to the American schooners?—A. Yes.

Q. According to your observation, does fishing by the American vessels injure the boat fishery?—A. No.

Q. Why not?—A. Because, on the grounds where they fish, as far as I have seen, the Americans feed the fish by heaving over quantities of bait.

Q. Are any fishing-vessels fitted out from Halifax; and, if so, how many?—A. I do not exactly know, but there are not many fitted out from Halifax.

Q. Are there any?—A. I do not know of any.

Q. Do the fishermen up here in the provinces, as far as you have observed, get rich?—A. No; they are generally poor.

Q. Do they lay up money?—A. No.

Q. By whom is the money made on fish?—A. By the merchants in Halifax.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. Are you a practical fisherman yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. How long have you been engaged in fishing?—A. I caught my first fish when I was 14 years old.

Q. And how old are you?—A. Fifty-four.

Q. And have you been engaged in fishing ever since you were 14?—A. No; not all the time. I have been a pilot as well as a fisherman.

Q. Do you call yourself a practical fisherman?—A. I do.

Q. Have you gone on fishing-voyages?—A. I am a practical boat-fisherman.

Q. You have not fished in any schooner?—A. Yes; but not as a fisherman. I have made trading trips, having gone to buy fish, but not to fish myself.

Q. You have not been in a vessel engaged in fishing?—A. I have never been engaged in vessels as a fisherman.

Q. Then you are not a practical fisherman except as concerns boats?—A. I should say that a man who understands boat-fishing could also fish on board of a schooner.

Q. You have never fished on a schooner?—A. Not as a fisherman.

Q. Did you ever fish at all in the Bay of St. Lawrence?—A. Yes.

Q. In boats?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. Off St. Peter's.

Q. Did you go to reside there?—A. No.

Q. You happened to fish there?—A. I ran over there in a boat, because we could not then get any fish at home.

Q. You went there from Pictou?—A. Yes.

Q. To which St. Peter's did you go?—A. To St. Peter's on the north side of Prince Edward Island.

Q. Did you go over there in an open boat?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the distance across?—A. I do not know as I could tell you now exactly.

Q. What is about the distance?—A. It is something like 125 miles, I guess, around down to East Point; and then it is between 40 and 50 miles up the island to St. Peter's.

Q. That would make the distance 170 miles?—A. I will not swear to that.

Q. You went there in an open boat?—A. Yes.

Q. How often did you try that experiment?—A. Twice in my lifetime. I was there this summer in a boat which I built myself, and I was there twelve years ago.

Q. That would be in 1865?—A. I do not know about that; but I know that it is all of twelve years ago. We loaded with codfish.

Q. You were not then mackerel-fishing?—A. No; that was in the spring.

Q. You never fished for mackerel in the Bay of St. Lawrence at all?—A. Yes; I have.

Q. When?—A. Fifteen years ago.

Q. What were you in?—A. A schooner.

Q. I thought you told me you never fished in a schooner?—A. We were trading, and sometimes when we could not buy any fish we turned to and caught them; but this was not making a summer's work of it. You asked me if I was a hired fisherman, and I told you that I was not.

Q. I asked you if you were in the habit of fishing in schooners.—A. I have done so; but not as a hired fisherman.

Q. What, then, was your business?—A. I was hired under the boss trader of that schooner.

Q. What were you doing?—A. Trading.

Q. Where?—A. We were at North Cape, Cape Breton, and previously at Ingonish, Cape Breton, and then we went into the Bay of St. Lawrence and afterward to the south side of North Cape, Cape Breton.

Q. Did you trade at Prince Edward Island?—A. No; but we happened to sail that way, and we heaved out the lines one evening to see if we could catch any mackerel. We were going to Pictou when we were caught by a head-wind and taken as far as Cascumpeque; the wind then headed off again and we came around East Point and went home.

Q. You did not trade then?—A. No.

Q. You did not go out to fish at all?—A. We had fishing-gear on board, and we went for the purpose of catching fish that day.

Q. But was your schooner fitted out for fishing?—A. No, but for trading; she had, however, fishing-gear on board.

Q. What do you call fishing-gear?—A. She had somewhere about six nets on board, and mackerel jigs and lines enough for six men, and such and such bait as we could buy as we went along the shore.

Q. Where did you get it?—A. At Little Canso, before we went round Scatarie.

Q. Had you barrels in which to put your fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you were on a kind of mixed trip—trading and fishing?—A. Of course. When we could not buy, we caught them if we could.

Q. How many fish did you catch during the whole trip?—A. We caught 150 barrels.

Q. Where?—A. Between Ingonish, Cape Breton, and St. Peter's, Prince Edward Island. We were not exactly close inshore.

Q. What do you call close inshore?—A. From one-half a mile to $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and perhaps $1\frac{3}{4}$ or 3 miles off shore.

Q. But were you very nearly close inshore?—A. We were not inside of three miles from it anyway; none of them were taken within this limit.

Q. Not one of them?—A. No.

Q. I suppose that you would not have caught any within three miles of the shore if you could have done so?—A. Yes; we would, if we could have got any there.

Q. Did you try in there?—A. Yes.

Q. I suppose you knew that you had no right to fish there?—A. We were in a British schooner, and we had a right to fish anywhere where we could get fish.

Q. Did you attempt to fish within three miles of the shore?—A. I tell you plainly that we tried in there, but we could not get the fish there to any amount.

Q. What did you catch there?—A. I remember that one day we took 25 mackerel there.

Q. And that is the only day you do remember of having caught fish there?—A. No.

Q. What other days did you do so?—A. There are plenty more days when this was the case.

Q. I suppose you remember that day because so few were then caught?—A. Yes; it did not pay us much for that day's work.

Q. Other days you did much better work?—A. Yes.

Q. Do I understand you to state to the Commission that the inshore fisheries along Prince Edward Island are good for nothing?—A. I do not think that they are good for anything, between you and me.

Q. During how many years have you been acquainted with them?—A. I was fourteen when I caught my first fish.

Q. Was this on the shore of Prince Edward Island?—A. No; but off Sheet Harbor, down here. In 1857, my father moved to the town of Pictou, and the next spring we fitted out and went away around the shore fishing. My father is now in Nebraska.

Q. I understand you to state that, in your opinion, the inshore fisheries on the north side of Prince Edward Island—that is, within three miles of the coast, are good for nothing?—A. They are good for nothing; that is the way it lays now.

Q. And the way it has always lain so far as you are aware?—A. Yes.

Q. While you have been acquainted with them?—A. Yes.

Q. And that is your opinion under oath?—A. I am on my oath. It is my oath which I am looking after.

Q. And these fisheries are really good for nothing?—A. They are really good for nothing.

Q. How often have you fished along the shore on the north side of Prince Edward Island, to justify you in giving that opinion?—A. The next year after I was in the Responsible I was fishing in the bay; this was in 1854.

Q. How often did you fish there?—A. I may say that since I have been in Pictou—that is since 1857, with the exception of some times when I have gone piloting, and more times when I went navigating to the West Indies, and when I was in one of your steamboats piloting to Boston, I have been engaged in fishing in the spring, summer, and fall, almost every year except four or five years.

Q. Have you been fishing for mackerel?—A. Yes; and for cod and hake.

Q. Within 3 miles of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes; and outside of 3 miles.

Q. I am speaking of inside of 3 miles from the shore?—A. Inside of that distance I tell you plainly that mackerel cannot be caught to any amount.

Q. If you have no experience as to fishing within the 3-mile limit, how can you say that this fishery is worth nothing?—A. I say that from my experience there are no fish to be got within 3 miles of the shore, but they can be got outside of that.

Q. What experience have you of the fishing within 3 miles of the northern side of Prince Edward Island?—A. I think I have spoken plainly enough. I tell you that you can catch no fish inshore; they are all caught outside.

Q. How often have you fished where I have mentioned?—A. All of twenty times at different times.

Q. How long were you there on each of these occasions?—A. I suppose sometimes two months, and sometimes three months, and so on.

Q. Were you in fishing vessels?—A. I told you that I was never a hired fisherman on a fishing vessel. I was in fishing boats from 20 to 22 and 25 feet keel.

Q. Where did they belong to?—A. Two of them I built myself.

Q. When you were living at Pictou?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you not tell me that you so fished only on two occasions?—A. I said I did so on two occasions, and into two boats which I built myself.

Q. You said you went there once this year and once twelve years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. How does it now happen that you say you have fished there twenty times?—A. I say that I have fished there all of twenty times.

Q. In open boats?—A. Yes; and I have been there from two to three months each time.

Q. In open boats?—A. Yes.

Q. On each of these twenty occasions was your place of residence Pictou?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you not tell me that you had gone over there twice?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever go over there in any other boats but your own?—A. Yes; but not from Pictou.

Q. Where did you go from?—A. Murray Harbor. I went there to earn a living.

Q. Murray Harbor is on the south side of Prince Edward Island?—

A. Yes.

Q. What did you go there for?—A. I was seeking for employment.

Q. And you were employed in boats there?—A. Yes.

Q. You went in boats from there to fish for mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. What were you fitted out for generally?—A. For cod-fishing; but we could not get them on that shore, and so we went round to the north side of the island to see what we could do mackerel fishing.

Q. And you could not catch any mackerel?—A. Not inshore.

Q. Will you give us the names of the owners of these boats in which you were?—A. One of them was named Jackson; and I think that the other three are lost; they are dead now. I forget their names. Jackson is now living.

Q. And you remained fishing for three months?—A. For two or three months.

Q. And during this time you caught nothing?—A. Nothing to make it worth while.

Q. What did you get?—A. Something like 15 barrels of mackerel and 20 quintals of codfish.

Q. And that was all?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that a specimen of your catches all through these twenty times?—A. It is—about.

Q. Did you always go fishing there during those twenty times from Murray Harbor?—A. No.

Q. Where else did you go from?—A. We went once from Whitehead, down on this side of Canso.

Q. Where did you go then?—A. To the north side of the island. I was with Tom Munroe, who is living now.

Q. Did you fish inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. And you caught nothing?—A. Nothing to speak of; but we got some, of course.

Q. What induced you to go fishing there after the experience you had?—A. I was hard up, and did not want to remain idle. There were fish to be got there if you went off the shore far enough; but we had not the means, and we could not get them.

Q. But there were fish there?—A. Yes; off on the grounds; but we wanted capital in order to catch them.

Q. How was the fishing where you were?—A. I did not see any fish; if I had, I would have got some of them.

Q. You say that the inshore fisheries are worth nothing?—A. Yes.

Q. Why, then, did you continue to fish there?—A. You must understand that I was not master of the boat. I was only a hired man, and I had to do as my master told me; and that is the reason why we did not catch the fish.

Q. Did you not tell them that they could get no fish inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. And though you told them that it was of no use, they did fish inshore?—A. Yes; certainly.

Q. Do you not think that they had had some experience in fishing in that locality themselves?—A. Perhaps this was the case.

Q. Had they such experience or not?—A. I thought this was the case; but they did not keep to their arrangement with me; they were too frightened to go off shore, but some men are not frightened to do so in an open boat.

Q. And you are one of them?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you put up at night?—A. In the cuddy, forward.

Q. You did not go inshore?—A. No.

Q. You did not then run into a harbor?—A. If it was dark and stormy looking we certainly would go in for the night.

Q. Then on these different occasions you never made harbor at night?—A. Yes; but not as a general thing.

Q. And on these different occasions you kept inshore?—A. The man I was hired with did so.

Q. This was the case on the twenty occasions you speak of?—A. Yes; save on two of these occasions, when I went fishing in boats belonging to myself.

Q. And on eighteen occasions you kept inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. And caught nothing there?—A. Yes; nothing worth speaking of.

Q. And these people would not go out beyond 3 miles to fish?—A. No.

Q. How far from the land did you keep?—A. From half a mile to $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 miles.

Q. In other words, you actually fished eighteen times, for two or three months at a time, and you never caught more than 15 or 16 barrels of fish?—A. No.

Q. You so fished during eighteen different seasons for three months at a time?—A. Yes.

Q. How did you get provisions?—A. We took them with us.

Q. Did you take provisions for three months in an open boat?—A. Yes; they were stowed away in the cuddy.

Q. Was this an open boat?—A. Yes; with a cuddy forward. There were from four to five or six hands on board. A barrel of flour, with other things, will do this number for six month's time.

Q. What was the size of the boat?—A. 20, 22, or 25 feet keel. You can get boats down here with 18 feet keel that will carry 500 quintals of codfish.

Q. And provisions for six months?—A. A barrel of flour, with other necessities, stores, will do it.

Q. Where do you stow them?—A. Forward.

Q. Not in the cuddy?—A. Yes.

Q. And you had barrels of fish on board, and salt, and all that?—A. Certainly.

Q. How many barrels had you on board?—A. A 300-quintal boat could take about 150 barrels.

Q. How many had you on board?—A. About 100, I suppose, including whole barrels and half barrels, to make stowage for the boat.

Q. How many barrels of salt had you?—A. We buy this by the hogshead, but to make ballast we put it into barrels, unheading them as we use it. A hogshead holds 7 bushels.

Q. How many hogsheads had you?—A. About 15.

Q. You had besides 100 barrels to put fish in aboard?—A. Yes; and we could stow fish away in bulk.

Q. And besides all these you had in an open boat provisions for six men for three months?—A. Yes.

Q. And all this in a boat of 25 feet keel?—A. Yes; that is done in the country.

Q. And you never went into a harbor at all?—A. We used to do so if it looked dark and stormy and the like of that.

Q. And you never went outside of the three-mile limit while on these voyages?—A. No; not in the boats in which I was a hired man.

Q. You did not do so these eighteen times?—A. No.

Q. Never at all?—A. No; not in the boats in which I was.

Q. And they would not go more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles out?—A. No; but I saw boats outside of that.

Q. But they would not go there?—A. Yes.

Q. And this was done for eighteen different seasons; the same thing was done over and over again?—A. Yes.

Q. So that from this experience you swear positively that, in your opinion, the inshore fisheries on the north side of the Prince Edward Island are good for nothing?—A. They are good for nothing; and this is also the case with the shore fishery of Northumberland Strait.

Q. And if people came here and swore that plenty of fish are to be caught, and are caught, on the north side of Prince Edward Island, you would not believe one word of it?—A. No more than as to what I have stated; you may get there from 10 to 15 quintals of codfish, and perhaps from 15 to 20 barrels of mackerel; but this is not going to pay a crew.

Q. You do not believe it if people say that the best fishing is inshore?—A. No; not one word of it.

Q. In fact, the inshore fisheries are worth nothing?—A. Yes; but outside the limits you will get fish.

Q. But with that splendidly fitted out boat you never thought of going out there to try?—A. No.

Q. How far along the shores of Prince Edward Island did you fish on these occasions?—A. As far as Cascumpeque, I think.

Q. Did you fish off Rustico?—A. I cannot say that we hove a line off there.

Q. Did you sail up as far as that?—A. Yes; we went as far as Cascumpeque.

Q. Why did you not try there?—A. A fair wind was blowing, and we did not think it worth while.

Q. Is not Rustico considered the best fishing-ground around the island?—A. No.

Q. Where is the best fishing-ground around the island?—A. Off New London.

Q. That is the next harbor to Rustico?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you try there?—A. No.

Q. Why not?—A. Well, when I was there I was a hired man; I was not master of the boat, and I could not tell my master to go to work and fish there.

Q. Did he fish at Rustico?—A. We fished inshore, but we got nothing; what I call getting nothing is when a man makes a voyage, and when he comes back cannot pay his debts; that is nothing, and worse than nothing.

Q. You say you were in the schooner *Responsible* in 1853?—A. Yes.

Q. And you took no American vessels fishing in the bay within the three-mile limit?—A. No; one morning we found one inside at Magdalen Island, but when we came to examine, she was getting wood and water.

Q. You never saw any other American vessel inside of the limit?—A. No.

Q. Did you not see others, which got out of the way, and beyond the three-mile limit before you could take them?—A. No; we sailed along one foggy morning, and tried to catch them, but we could not.

Q. You wished to see if any were inside?—A. Yes.

Q. Why, then, did you try to catch them?—A. It was on account of the noise made about their imposing on the provinces; and the thing was to get them if we could.

Q. You knew that there were none within the three-mile limit?—A. We sailed along the shore in a fog and tried to catch them. We sailed from cape to cape, in the vicinity of the three-mile line, but none of the American vessels attempted to come inside.

Q. Did you not say you tried to catch them inside?—A. No; we sailed from cape to cape, in the fog, but never found one of them inside.

Q. You never saw one of them?—A. Not inside; but there were plenty outside in the fog; and I saw the Scotch boats make fast to them and catch mackerel.

Q. Was this on foggy days?—A. Yes; and other days, too.

Q. There were other government vessels in there at that time?—A. Yes.

Q. And they happened to seize vessels?—A. I think they had to give some of them up afterward. Some seizures were made; but I do not know whether they were legal or not. We did not see a chance to make any legally.

Q. How many vessels were seized that year?—A. I do not remember just now.

Q. Of how many seizures did you hear?—A. I could not tell you just now, it is so long ago, and I have not bothered my memory about it since. I think that Leybold took one or two, as near as I can recollect, and the brig Halifax was out at the same time. Sir Colin Campbell, on a man-of-war brig, had something to do with some of them, and he made more mischief with Nova Scotia fishermen for telling yarns about these matters than with the Americans, and he did not let the former out of Port Hood for a month.

Q. You seem to have a prejudice in this regard?—A. No; I have none.

Q. I asked you what vessels were seized?—A. I cannot give you either the names or the number of them.

Q. What did you hear about them?—A. I do not remember just now.

Q. How are you now employed?—A. I have no employment at present.

Q. Where do you reside?—A. At Pictou.

Q. If I understand you aright, when the Americans came in to fish within three miles of the shore the boat-fishermen made fast to the American fishermen?—A. Yes; but this was not within but outside of the three-mile limit, and many of the boats thus got good catches.

Q. Do the American vessels come within the three-mile limit?—A. Yes; to approach the harbors.

Q. But do they do so to fish?—A. I cannot answer that more than to say that I have never seen them catch any fish inside of the three-mile limit, though I have heard people say that they come to fish within three miles of the shore.

Q. Did you ever see them do so?—A. No. I mean by seeing them fishing seeing them haul the fish up.

Q. Did you ever so see them in the act of fishing?—A. I never saw them more than sailing along the bays, and so on.

Q. I understand you to say that you have been for forty years engaged in fishing, and that during this time you never saw an American vessel fishing within three miles of the coast?—A. No.

Q. You never did?—A. I never did.

Q. Either on the coast of Nova Scotia, of Prince Edward Island, or of Cape Breton?—A. No.

Q. You have seen them fishing very near the three-mile limit,

but never inside of it?—A. I have seen them inside of it, but I never saw them fishing inside of it.

Q. They were then merely sailing?—A. Yes.

Q. Then all these British boat-fishermen who made fast to the American vessels went outside of the three-mile limit to take advantage of the American bait?—A. Yes.

Q. And the Americans never came within the three- limit at all?—A. Not that I have seen.

Q. Do you think it possible for them to have come inside of it without your having seen them?—A. Yes; I only stick to what I have seen myself.

Q. Do you not think it odd that this should be the case during these forty years?—A. I have heard people say that they came inside the limit to fish, but I have never seen them do so; I do not know as I ever did.

Q. Do you believe that the American fishermen have ever fished within the three-mile limit on the coast of Nova Scotia, of Prince Edward Island, or of Cape Breton?—A. Well, as to the believing part, I have heard men who tell the truth say that they have done so; but at the same time I have never seen it.

Q. Do you believe the persons who said so or not?—A. I have heard people say so.

Q. Do you believe them?—A. I believed one or two men occasionally; but I do not say whether this is the case or not. I did not see it.

Q. As far as your experience goes, you believe that the Americans never have fished within three miles of the land during the last forty years?—A. I do not know about that; that is getting it rather tight on a man. I might have an opinion that they did do it, and would not like to say that they did not do it; but I have not seen them do it.

Q. What is your opinion in this regard?—A. My opinion is, that I do not think that the intruding of the Americans on our shore is worth talking about. I believe this much, that if the people of Nova Scotia would give the American fishermen a little more freedom, the boat fishermen would have a better chance.

Q. You are strongly in favor of the Americans coming inside of the 3-mile limit to fish?—A. Yes; because then I would not have to row so far off on a calm morning.

Q. Why?—A. When there is no wind, we have to pull the boat off.

Q. What has that to do with this question?—A. We want to get alongside of the vessels, where the bait is thrown, and get some of the fish that the vessels raise.

Q. You mean that you cannot get any fish within three miles of the shore at Pictou?—A. No.

Q. And you cannot get anything there unless the American schooners come there and throw bait out?—A. Yes—nothing worth speaking of.

Q. Do the American schooners come off Pictou and throw out bait, as a rule?—A. I have seen them between East Point, Pictou Island, and Arisaig Wharf, or Gulf Wharf.

Q. And wherever they throw out bait, you go to fish?—A. I have seen them come quite close to the Three-Mile light, at Pictou Island, and raise mackerel half way between that point and the Gulf Wharf.

Q. And then you got some fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Then I understand that you wish the Commission to understand that unless the Americans come there and throw out bait, even the in-shore fishery is good for nothing?—A. Yes; and you must not think

that I have any prejudice about it, for this is not the case; I have none.

Q. In point of fact, you say that unless the American fishermen are allowed to fish off our coasts, our own fishermen cannot catch anything?—A. No.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Does anybody get any considerable quantity of mackerel without throwing out bait?—A. No; it takes a quantity of it to raise the mackerel.

Q. Do the small-sized boats usually have a considerable quantity of bait to throw over?—A. No.

Q. Will you tell me how many men there were on board of the vessel or large boat on which you were?—A. There were six of us.

Q. Will you describe what kind of boat it was, and state its length and tonnage?—A. An open boat has no tonnage. The boat was of 22 feet keel, 11 feet 6 inches beam, and 5 feet 6 inches in depth of hold; she had something like 6 or 7 feet laid off for a forecastle, called the cuddy; the two sides of the boat were furnished with bunks for the men to sleep in; and then there was what was called standing room for the captain; and between this and the mainmast was another place where we stowed away nets, fishing-lines, and fishing-gear of all kinds—a barrel of flour and a barrel of beef and a barrel of pork, if we wanted it.

Q. Do you know the boat's tonnage?—A. I could not tell you; none of the boats are measured, because they are open. By keeping them open, we get clear of custom-house taxes, while if we decked them fore and aft, we would have to pay taxes at every port which we entered.

Q. Are they like the boats called in Newfoundland western boats, which stay out at sea?—A. Yes; pretty much.

Q. Which stay out for three and four weeks, and scarcely ever go beyond three miles from the shore?—A. They are not built on the same principle; we Nova Scotians call the western boats of Newfoundland jacks.

Q. How do these boats of yours compare in size with the Newfoundland jacks?—A. Ours are not quite so large.

Q. How much smaller are they?—A. If the jacks are of 25 tons burden, our boats are something like 15 tons.

Q. I notice that Mr. Killigrew in his testimony speaks of western boats manned by six men for six months, and states that their tonnage varies from 22 to 28 tons, and that they follow the fish to different parts of the coast. Sir Alexander Galt asked him if they staid out at sea, and he replied:

Yes; perhaps for three or four weeks. They are something like our Bankers, but they only fish about a couple of miles from the shore. They scarcely ever go farther than that from the coast.

Q. You know what kind of boat this is?—A. Yes.

Q. And you say that if this is of 25 tons, yours are of 15 tons?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. What is the length of the keel?—A. Twenty-two feet.

Q. What is the beam?—A. Eleven feet six inches.

Q. Do you say that a boat of 22 feet keel has 11 feet beam?—A. Eleven feet six inches we generally call it; the hold is some 5 feet 6 inches.

Q. And six feet is taken in the bow for the cuddy?—A. Six or seven feet, I should say.

Q. It has two masts?—A. Yes.

Q. And is schooner-rigged?—A. Yes.

No. 52.

WILLIAM PERRY, fisherman and seaman, of Sheet Harbor, Nova Scotia, was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn, and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. How far is Sheet Harbor east of Halifax?—Answer. About 45 miles.

Q. During how many years have you lived there?—A. About twenty-five or thirty years.

Q. Do you recollect the year when you first went fishing?—A. No; I first went fishing with my father in the bay.

Q. For mackerel or cod?—A. For cod.

Q. Where did you go?—A. I used to go boat-fishing with him at home, and then my brothers and myself got a vessel and went on what we call the Banks, 15 or 20 miles off the coast of Nova Scotia, in deep water.

Q. You did not then go into the bay?—A. No; that would be early in the season.

Q. Are these Banks 15, or 20, or 30 miles out from the shore?—A. Yes; in from 60 to 75 fathoms of water.

Q. And there you caught codfish?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you go into the bay afterward?—A. Yes; in August, and the latter part of July; and I have been here September.

Q. You were fishing on the Banks off Nova Scotia in May and June?—A. Yes.

Q. And afterward you went up the Gulf of Saint Lawrence?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go then?—A. Up about Prince Edward Island, and I have been up as far as Anticosti Island, over to Labrador, and around the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Were you cod-fishing still?—A. Yes; we fished out in the bay off the island.

Q. What was the tonnage of your vessel?—A. We had two vessels; one was very small and the other was of 25 or 30 tons or along there.

Q. What was the tonnage of the small vessel?—A. About 15.

Q. When you used to go into the bay to fish at the different places you have mentioned, how far off shore did you catch your fish?—A. From 8 to 12 and 15 miles.

Q. Have you tried the inshore fisheries?—A. Yes. We never do try for cod, however, inside of 8 or 10 or 12 miles from the shore; we consider it useless to do so in vessel fishing; of course the boats fish closer in.

Q. You have not been engaged in boat fishing in the bay?—A. No.

Q. Have you seen American vessels fishing in the bay?—A. Yes; very often.

Q. At about what distance off shore have you so seen them?—A. At all distances; some were 8 or 10 miles off, and others 3, 4, 5, and 6 miles off. I have seen them fishing very often on the ridge between Cape George and Prince Edward Island.

Q. There are shoaler and well-known places of fishing-grounds along there?—A. Yes.

Q. At what distance would this lie from the main land ?—A. About 8 or 10 miles.

Q. And there are good fishing-grounds along these shoal spots ?—A. Yes. I have never had any experience in fishing on them, but I have remarked the vessels fishing there very often.

Q. In your experience, have you seen American vessels actually engaged in fishing within what you are reasonably certain was 3 miles from the coast, and, if so, to what extent has this been the case ?—A. I have, I believe, seen them fishing in close to, if not closer than, 3 miles from the shore sometimes, but not very often. I have seen them fishing farther out oftener than close in, in my opinion ; but I could not judge exactly as to the distance by looking at them.

Q. You spoke of their fishing from 5 to 8 miles off shore ?—A. Yes.

Q. And sometimes you have seen them at what seemed to be nearer than 3 miles from the coast ?—A. Yes.

Q. But mainly you have seen them fishing outside of the 3-mile limit ?—A. Yes.

Q. Where are the mackerel found in schools—inside or outside of the 3-mile limit ?—A. I have often remarked, when sailing up the bay, large schools away off shore, and again I have seen them school very close to the shore.

Q. Are the schools inshore generally broken up ?—A. Yes ; they generally do break up and scatter round the shore.

Q. When did you give the fishing business up ?—A. About five years ago I found that it did not pay, and so I bought a little larger vessel and went into the coasting business.

Q. Did you devote yourself industriously to the fishing business ?—A. Yes ; as far as my means allowed me to do so I did.

Q. I suppose that you had not enough capital for large vessels and great outfits ?—A. No.

Q. Why do your people not do as the Americans do, and build large, fine vessels, and go off and fish outside, and catch good large catches and get large fish ?—A. I cannot tell you, unless they are afraid of the money.

Q. Or they have not got it ?—A. Yes.

Q. In your case, I suppose that you did not have it ?—A. No.

Q. In all this time, from 1863 to 1872, that you were fishing there, were you part owner of all the vessels in which you were ?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you sole owner ?—A. No ; there were three of us—brothers.

Q. What are your brothers' names ?—A. John and Patrick.

Q. Where do they live ?—A. At Sheet Harbor.

Q. And you three owned the vessels ?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you all go fishing ?—A. Yes, and together.

Q. Under the Dominion flag ?—A. Yes.

Q. You had a right to go inside and fish as much as you liked ?—A. Yes.

Q. While you were cod-fishing did you occasionally take a catch of mackerel ?—A. We used to take them for bait.

Q. Where ?—A. Sometimes where we were fishing, and sometimes closer in shore.

Q. You caught them where you were fishing for cod ?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you catch the greater or better part of these fish there or close in ?—A. We never could make a great catch of mackerel. We did not have the means to do so. We were not fitted up with bait mills ; and our catch of mackerel was very small, sometimes it consisted of a barrel, a half a barrel, or somewhere along there.

Q. What have you been doing since 1872 ?—A. Coasting and trading.

Q. You have not been fishing since then ?—A. No, save last year when I fished with seines for herring.

Q. Where ?—A. At the Magdalen and Anticosti Islands.

Q. Was your fishing a success or a failure ?—A. The fish were plentiful where we were.

Q. From what you learned from other vessels, what was the result of the mackerel fishing last year ?—A. These fish were then very scarce as I could understand.

Q. You know Halifax pretty well ?—A. Yes.

Q. Are there any fishing vessels fitted out in Halifax ?—A. I could not say, but I do not think that many are fitted out here. There may be some for all I know.

Q. Do you know of one ?—A. No, not down our way.

Q. But in the port of Halifax ?—A. I could not say that for certain I know of one so fitted out.

By Mr. Doutre :

Q. Who requested you to come here as a witness ?—A. Mr. Mackasey introduced me to these gentlemen, and they asked me a few questions concerning the matter and I gave them my opinion as far as my little experience goes.

Q. What were you asked ?—A. I was asked concerning the fisheries in and off shore.

Q. You were asked your opinion about them ?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you asked what you yourself had seen ?—A. Yes ; and what experience I had had in fishing.

Q. How often have you fished in the Gulf of St. Lawrence ?—A. I have fished there some three or four summers, three to the best of my knowledge, that is for part of the season.

Q. This includes the years when you were fishing with your brothers ?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you exclusively fishing for cod ?—A. Yes, we went for the purpose of catching cod.

Q. Where have you been fishing ?—A. In the bay, to Labrador, over about Anticosti, and down around Sydney and Cape North, and all around this shore.

Q. You were always looking for cod ?—A. Yes.

Q. How far did you fish from Anticosti ?—A. About 9 miles—between it and Labrador on the banks there. We generally made a harbor at Mingan, on the Labrador coast, and got our bait there.

Q. What are you doing now ?—A. Nothing. I sold my vessel this summer, and I am building a vessel, which is not yet finished.

Q. Where were you when the conversation took place which led to your coming here as a witness ?—A. I came up to Halifax on business, and being well acquainted with Mr. Mackasey my meeting him led to my coming here.

Q. You say you only fished for mackerel for bait ?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you look for that bait ?—A. We often tried for it when laying at anchor on the ground where we fished for cod, and we would catch some mackerel there sometimes ; at other times we would go inshore and we would find some there.

Q. How far off shore ?—A. From 2 to 3 or 4 or 5 miles.

Q. What do you call inshore ?—A. Coming close to the land.

Q. What distance from it ?—A. I could not exactly say, but it would be 3 or 4 or 5 miles from it sometimes.

Q. You call 5 miles inshore?—A. Yes—from where we would be fishing, and we would go in, may be half the distance between us and the shore, and try.

Q. Have you ever fished on American vessels?—A. No.

Q. You say you have seen American vessels fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. How near the shore?—A. I should say within the 3-mile limit sometimes, and sometimes farther off—8 or 9 miles off.

Q. Where did you see the larger number of them fishing?—A. I have seen a very large fleet fishing on the ridges between Cape George, in the fall of the year when I would be going to the islands.

Q. How far from the coast?—A. 8 or 9 miles as near as I can judge, and I have seen them fishing closer to and along the shore.

Q. Did you ever see a school of mackerel?—A. Yes; and many a one.

Q. Where?—A. In all parts of the bay.

Q. Near the shore or away from the shore?—A. Yes.

Q. What are your brothers doing now?—A. One of them is fishing.

Q. On his own account?—A. Yes.

Q. Which one is this?—A. John.

Q. Do you know whether he is fishing for cod or mackerel?—A. He is cod-fishing.

Q. Is that his usual occupation?—A. Yes; he also goes herring fishing.

Q. With nets?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you take the barrel or half a barrel of mackerel which you mention as having taken for bait?—A. Wherever we could find them. Sometimes it was where we were fishing, and sometimes elsewhere.

Q. Where are herring generally taken?—A. Great quantities of them are taken at the Magdalen Islands and at Anticosti, in the spring.

Q. How far from the shore?—A. Along the shore, in the harbors.

Q. A few acres from the shore?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you been paid to come here?—A. No.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Did you come from home for the purpose of appearing here and giving evidence?—A. No.

Q. Had you any idea when you left home of coming here as a witness?—A. No, not in the least.

Q. Did you then know, by the way, that the Commission was in session?—A. No, I did not know the first thing about it until Mr. Mackasey asked me my opinion on the matter; and that was before he spoke of the Commission.

Q. He asked you your opinion?—A. Yes; and what I thought about it from my experience.

Q. Mr. Mackasey lives here?—A. Yes.

Q. And what did you tell him?—A. I told him what I thought of the matter, as far as my experience went.

Q. And then you came here?—A. Yes.

Q. Has anything been said to you by any one requesting you to testify to certain things, whether you believe them to be true or not?—A. No, not in the least.

Q. Nothing of the sort has occurred?—A. No.

Q. And if any such thing has been said, you would have left the man that said it at once?—A. Yes; it would have been useless to have said anything of the sort to me.

No. 53.

THOMAS WARREN, of Deer Isle, Me., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana :

Question. Be so kind as to state your age.—Answer. Fifty-eight.

Q. When did you first; go fishing no matter as to the exact date?—

A. About 1853.

Q. In the gulf?—A. Yes.

Q. For what did you go; for mackerel, or cod, or both?—A. Mackerel.

Q. The mackerel was rather a new thing then in the gulf?—A. Comparatively; yes.

Q. How long were you engaged in fishing?—A. That season?

Q. No; I didn't mean that season, but how many seasons did you go?—A. I went five years in succession.

Q. Into the gulf?—A. Yes.

Q. Your last trip was in '37 or '38 as a fisherman?—A. '37.

Q. Where did you catch fish then? I don't mean the place, but whether inshore or off shore?—A. Do you refer to the first year?

Q. To the first five years. You spoke of having been there from '33 to '37?—A. I was there five years.

Q. Without going into details, did you catch the fish you caught inshore or off shore, and in what proportion?—A. It is a long time ago. I only speak from memory. In 1833 I was in a schooner named the Eagle.

Q. That is so long ago that we don't care much about the names, but only whether you can tell from memory whether those five years you caught off shore or inshore?—A. In 1833 I was there for mackerel.

Q. Can you tell how it was these five years, or, if you prefer, take each year?—A. Well, three of the five years I was there for codfish.

Q. Those were caught in deep water?—A. Always.

Q. Two years you were for mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. These two years, where did you catch?—A. In 1833 we got them all off shore. In 1837, the last year I was there, we got 23 barrels out of our trip very near St. Peter's, within three miles of the shore.

Q. You have no doubt they were within three miles of the shore?—A. I am clearly of the opinion that they were within three miles.

Q. What was your whole trip?—A. I don't recollect, perhaps 200 barrels. The vessel was small.

Q. Of those about 23 barrels were taken within three miles. After 1837 what did you do?—A. I never went a fishing voyage after '37. I retired from fishing and went into the fitting business.

Q. That is, fitting fishermen?—A. Yes.

Q. How long were you engaged in that business?—A. About twenty-eight years, if I recollect aright.

Q. You continued in that business until you were appointed inspector or afterwards?—A. My being appointed inspector did not interrupt my fishing business.

Q. When did you give up your business as an outfitter?—A. In 1874.

Q. Then from the time you gave up fishing, 1837 to 1874, you were engaged as outfitter of vessels?—A. Very slightly for the first four or five years.

Q. After that more largely. Am I right?—A. Yes.

Q. How many years were you inspector in the State of Maine?—A. I was appointed in 1862 and held office until '69.

Q. Seven or eight years?—A. Seven years.

Q. Did your duties as inspector of fish generally carry you over the fishing ports of the State, and to what extent?—A. Yes; I was in every fishing town once a year, and when complaints came, I was as often as they came.

Q. What is the largest number of vessels you fitted for yourself any one year?—A. In 1862, if I recollect aright, I fitted out twenty-two sail of mackerel for the Bay Chaleurs, or St. Lawrence rather. (We call it the Bay Chaleur.)

Q. How many mackerel-men were fitted out from your place, Deer Isle, in former years—say from '60 to '62?—A. In 1862 we had the largest number in the bay.

Q. How many had you then?—A. 45 to 48.

Q. How many are there now?—A. Well, I don't know that I can answer that question. From our town we have had about five in the bay.

Q. Is the number of vessels in other fisheries about the same?—A. No; it has depreciated. There is not a quarter part of them.

Q. When you had forty-five vessels, or from that to forty-eight, in 1862, what proportion of them went into the bay?—A. Nearly all.

Q. This year you have five in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. The year before, or the year before that, how was it?—A. Last year, for instance.

Q. How many were in the bay?—A. As near as I can recollect, not one.

Q. Five tried this year? With what success, as they have been heard from?—A. Well, they have all lost money.

Q. Are you well acquainted with Castine?—A. I am.

Q. Is that far from you?—A. It is about fifteen miles to the north.

Q. Has Castine engaged much in mackerel or cod?—A. It is largely engaged in cod, but of late years they have not done much in any kind of fish.

Q. How many fishermen do you suppose are fitted from Castine now?—A. Not a mackereler.

Q. Take Camden; how many did they use to have and how many have they now?—A. Camden has always been a small fishing-place. About eight vessels, if I recollect.

Q. Are there any now?—A. Yes, there are, but I guess there are only three now.

Q. Are they in the bay?—A. No, none in the bay.

Q. Take North Haven?—A. Well, I guess they have had about ten there.

Q. Any there now?—A. None.

Q. Eastport; how many did they use to have?—A. When I first went there in 1862 they had eight mackerelers.

Q. Are there any now in the bay?—A. None—nowhere.

Q. Now those various places in which the number of vessels that have gone in the bay have diminished to nothing, what are their vessels doing now, where they still own them?—A. Fishing on the American shore. They are divided between seining on the shore and cod-fishing.

Q. That leads me to ask you as to the condition of the mackerel-catching on the shores of Maine. How is it, and how has it been for the last eight or ten years?—A. I don't know that I understand.

Q. The catch of mackerel on the shores of Maine; has it increased or diminished?—A. It has decreased this year.

Q. I don't mean this year particularly, but take the general run of

ten years past. How is the mackerel business of the coast compared with what it used to be?—A. My impression is there was as many mackerel put up on the coast of Maine last year, 1876, perhaps as there ever was. I only speak from recollection. I know they were very plenty.

Q. How is it as to summer-fishing grounds? Where are the summer-fishing grounds?—A. For mackerel? I should think three-fourths of all the mackerel there is taken in the United States is taken on the coast of Maine.

Q. Now include in that the mackerel which are taken by your vessels in the bay.—A. What do you say?

Q. Including the mackerel taken by your vessels in the bay, what proportion of all the mackerel taken, whether in the bay or on the coast, is taken on the American coast?—A. What part of them?

Q. Yes; what proportion of the whole?—A. I don't know.

Q. Have you any means of forming a judgment?—A. No; but I think the amount taken in the gulf is very small indeed compared with the mackerel packed in the States.

Q. You should know. You have had a long experience as inspector and otherwise.—A. Do you speak of that period for which I was inspector?

Q. I mean to include the whole period while you were inspector or an observer of the matter as a merchant.—A. I should think from '62 to '69—during that period of time I should think there was more than 50 per cent. of all the mackerel taken was taken in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. I should think so.

Q. Since that time how has it been?—A. It is all run down to a point almost. Everything has been taken this way.

Q. You mean in Maine?—A. Maine and Massachusetts.

Q. Then what do you say of the bay-fishing now, its present condition? I don't mean just to-day, but historically, taking the last ten years, five years, three years, two years, and so on. What condition is it in?—A. Well, I should say it was worthless. You mean the St. Lawrence, do you? Well, I should say it was worthless.

Q. And practically the people have so treated it?—A. They have.

Q. They have either gone out of the fishing or gone to other places?—A. They have gone seining on our shores.

Q. When you seine on the American shores, how far do you go? What is the limit of your seining?—A. Well, our folks rarely go outside of the Georges. In fact, they don't go beyond that at all. Perhaps twenty miles from the shore would be the most common ground. All the way from Portland down to Mount Desert Rock.

Q. Then you would say between Georges and Mount Desert Rock was about the limit of your seining?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that business an increasing business?—A. It has depreciated a good deal this year.

Q. But within the last ten years it has been increasing?—A. Yes, I guess it has been. I guess these last ten years it has been.

Q. Now from 1851 to 1866 you recollect was the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. Yes.

Q. During that time you had free scope fishing the gulf. You fished without respect to the three-mile line. Now, during that time when you had free access to the coast, was there any difference in the general result of the fisheries? Was it any more favorable to the people of the United States then?—A. Well, the fishing was very good in the St. Lawrence until about the year 1868.

Q. Well, was it any more favorable? Was there any difference that

you observed between the fishing at the time you had liberty to fish without respect to the three-mile limit and the time when there was an obstruction?—A. Yes, sir. Since I was quite young and went there myself in 1837 I have always thought it an advantage to us, the fishing within three miles.

Q. How did that compare in your opinion with the advantage of having duties laid upon British fish coming into your markets?—A. I should say, taking the duties into consideration, reciprocity was always against us.

Q. Now you know the opinion of the fishing people in Maine. It has been your duty to examine and go to every town once a year. What was the general opinion you found among the fishermen and fish-dealers as to the benefit they got from the Reciprocity Treaty as fishermen, balancing the privilege of fishing inshore against the removal of the duties?—A. Well, sir, I have spent a good deal of time, especially when I was inspector for the State, in trying to get at public opinion in those fishing towns. I have consulted a great many captains and owners of vessels. From 1860 to '63, '64, '65, and '66 there was not a great deal said about it, because the mackerel were plenty in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; but so far as I know for several years before the treaty was repealed they were very glad to see the time coming that we should be placed back where we were under the Treaty of 1818. The feeling was strongly against reciprocity.

Q. That is with reference to the fishery clauses of the treaty?—A. Yes; in reference to fish. I didn't refer to anything else.

Q. Do you say that from your observations and the experience you have had that there was a strong opinion among the people of Maine engaged in the fisheries?—A. Yes.

Q. They preferred to go back to the arrangement by which they were excluded from the inshore grounds and had power to impose duties on British fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, from your whole experience down to within the last few years, is there much value in your judgment in the inshore fisheries, that is, within three miles?—A. I think there is a value.

Q. I asked if there was much?—A. No; I don't think it is great; but I think there is a value in the inshore fisheries.

Q. It is more for the boats than for vessels, is it not? How is that?—A. I don't know anything about boats. We only go there in vessels from 50 to 100 tons. There is a value and a fear. We were very glad our way when we had the privilege of buying licenses of the English folks.

Q. You are probably looking to a different point from that to which I directed you, but you may go on with reference to the apprehensions you used to have when it was not permitted to you to go within. What were they?—A. Well, there were a great many captains that had no interest in the vessels, and they would seem to take risks that they ought not of fishing inshore. Somehow they seemed to have an impression that it was no harm to catch fish inshore if they were not caught.

Q. Now, what other reasons influenced you besides the fear that the captains would actually go inshore?—A. Well, it was a great point to determine when a vessel was within three miles. There was nothing to indicate it, and it was a matter of judgment between the American vessels and the cruisers. The vessels seemed to be apprehensive that they would be taken off three, four, five, or six miles.

Q. Now, from your experience, is it, or is it not, difficult to determine from a vessel, especially when the shore is high, what distance you are

off?—A. I think it is a very difficult thing indeed to determine just the distance from shore.

Q. Now from which class of vessels—there were some naval vessels and those fitted out by the provinces—which class of vessels did you have trouble from?—A. They were all called cutters in '37, if my memory serves me right.

Q. Do you know from what you learned whether there was any difference in the treatment of the men and the liberties given to them, the degree of severity practiced, as between officers of the regular navy and those of the cutters fitted out by the provinces?—A. Well, I was not in the bay. When I was in the bay there were three sailing cutters. Of late years those captains seemed very exacting, but when the naval officers came they seemed to be more liberal and easy. They would go aboard and tell them what the regulations were, and leave documents with them, and advise them not to catch inside.

Q. How was it with the captain of the Canadian cutters?—A. They were very arbitrary.

Q. Were there frequent complaints?—A. Yes; I think so. I can't say. I saw two vessels taken down at Margaree one morning—Gloucester vessels, I think. They made a great deal of trouble that day, but really at that time I could not see that the cutters were to blame. I saw the vessels taken. They were within three miles.

Q. So far as position is concerned, the cutters were not in fault, but did you know anything about the conduct of the officers when they boarded them?—A. No; we were under sail, trying to get out of the way of the cutters.

Q. What was done, and what the people complained of, you were not witness of?—A. No.

Q. Now I want to ask you, going back to the year 1837, was there any other difficulty with reference to the right to draw the lines from headland to headland? I don't ask you whether you had this experience yourself?—A. Well, I heard that matter freely discussed among the American fishermen, but I knew nothing of it.

Q. You had no experience of it?—A. No.

Q. But you heard it discussed?—A. Yes.

Q. As a question between them and the cutters?—A. No, not to my knowledge. I have only been aboard vessels when they were telling about this, that, and the other thing being wrong, about the drawing of these lines from the headlands, and about the cutters exacting things that they ought not.

Q. For what reason was it, when the licenses were at a low fee, that your people took them?—A. For fear they would be seized. They knew, of course, that the three-mile limit, as it was understood, was an indefinite thing; it created a fear on the part of the captains that they might be innocently taken. Then again, as I have said, there were times when they were satisfied that the inside fisheries were valuable.

Q. So it was partly the value of the privilege of being able to fish where they liked, and partly the fear of being taken when they ought not to be?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you made any inquiries specifically as to the captures of those vessels and the rules laid down?—A. I have heard a great deal about it.

Q. You have no statistics?—A. No.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. You were speaking of the lines drawn from headland to headland; what years did you refer to?—A. I referred particularly to the year

1837, and so in the year 1833, the two years I was mackerel-fishing in the gulf.

Q. Well, you were not referring to any other years except those?—A. No, I never was there.

Q. And you were only speaking of those years?—A. Yes, that is, in regard to the headland question.

Q. But you spoke of the cutters being very exacting?—A. Well, of course, I only spoke of what I heard aboard those vessels. I knew nothing about it.

Q. You were just merely speaking of something you heard in 1837. A. Yes.

Q. How often did you hear it that year?—A. Well, I was down there quite late in the fall, and it was a subject of constant conversation on board our American vessels.

Q. Don't you think you are mistaken?—A. About what?

Q. How many cutters were there?—A. Three I think.

Q. Did you ever see any cutter there that year?—A. I saw them take those two Cape Ann vessels. I think it was 1837. I may be mistaken as to the year.

Q. You only saw one. Yes.

Q. How many did you say you saw?—A. I saw three of them, I think it was, cruising in the bay that fall I was there last time.

Q. Were they exacting to you?—A. No.

Q. They didn't annoy you?—A. No.

Q. You didn't fish inshore at all?—A. Yes, we did. I caught—that is, the vessel I was in—23 barrels.

Q. But you caught those in one day?—A. Yes, one morning before breakfast.

Q. All the rest you caught outside?—A. Yes.

Q. You never caught any except the 23 barrels of mackerel inshore?—A. That is all ever when I was engaged in the bay.

Q. You caught these in the morning before breakfast?—A. Yes.

Q. You never tried to fish inshore any other time. You fished offshore every other time except that?—A. I think so.

Q. Was there a cutter in sight when you caught these?—A. No, sir. If there had been we would not have been likely to catch them.

Q. You said you had an idea it was right?—A. I was only speaking of the opinions of the captain's.

Q. That was the only time you ran any risk?—A. Yes. We went off St. Peter's early in the morning and got becalmed.

Q. That is the only time you run any risk?—A. Yes.

Q. Where was that?—A. Right off St. Peter's.

Q. That was pretty good fishing. You had a pretty good time?—A. Yes: that is the best fishing I ever saw in my life aboard a vessel.

Q. One would wonder why you didn't try it again?—A. We didn't try it then. We were coming out of harbor and got becalmed, and the fish came up all around us solid, apparently, and just as soon as wind breezed up the fish all left us; but during this time we had 23 barrels.

Q. Well, you never tried it again?—A. I don't recollect that we ever tried it again.

Q. The cutter never troubled or boarded you any time whatever?—A. No.

Q. From what experience you have had, your own personal experience, the best fishing is inside?—A. Within three miles?

Q. Certainly.—A. Well, no.

Q. You never saw anything better than that catch of 23 barrels for

the time, and that is the only time you tried?—A. We were surrounded by hundreds of vessels.

Q. But, looking to your own personal experience, the best fishing there that you knew was within three miles?—A. Yes; well, I never saw 23 barrels caught, that I recollect, so quickly as we caught them that morning.

Q. And you never tried it any other time? (No answer.)

Mr. TRESCOT. Did he understand your question?

Mr. WEATHERBE. Did you understand?—A. Yes; I believe I understand.

Q. Then, with regard to the value of the inshore fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, you have no personal knowledge later than 1837?—A. No practical knowledge.

Q. But since that I understood you to say you had acquired knowledge by procuring information?—A. I commenced when I was done fishing to fit out vessels.

Q. Have you ever acquired any knowledge from others with regard to the value of the inshore fisheries since 1837?—A. I have invariably consulted all my captains.

Q. You recollect when the agitation was going on in regard to the Reciprocity Treaty in 1852 in your State?—A. Yes; in 1854. We were, down to that, against it.

Q. I suppose you are acquainted with Senator Hamlin?—A. Yes; and with Mr. Pyke, too. He voted against it. I circulated a petition.

Q. I am asking you with reference to Senator Hamlin. He took an interest in this question of the fisheries, did he not?—A. Yes; but I have really forgotten about it.

Q. You yourself, in 1852, did not consider the fisheries of the gulf of any value, I think?—A. In 1852? I always considered them of some value.

Q. How much value? In 1852-'54, for instance.—A. Well, I don't know any distinction, since I went fishing, in the value of the inshore fisheries.

Q. Now, you are here as officer of the government in the State of Maine, having collected statistics, and you have brought a book full of statistics, I suppose?—A. You said I came on purpose for this examination. I had a dispatch, and a very few moments after I got the dispatch I came unprepared.

Q. What I said was that you had collected statistics. It was known you had collected statistics. It was known you were a man likely to be well acquainted with the subject. Now, I want to ask you whether it was considered in the State of Maine in 1852, 1853, 1854, or any of those years, that the inshore fisheries were of a great deal of value?—A. Well, so far as I know, although I had not at that time traveled over the State of Maine, I probably got hold of the opinion of our fishing communities and towns, from Portsmouth to Eastport, and they were opposed to the opening of our markets to foreign fish, or, in other words to the Reciprocity Treaty.

Q. What I want to get at is this, whether the general feeling in that State was opposed to it, or whether the people were generally of the opinion that the inshore fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence were of very little use to you. Tell us that?—A. So far as I know ever since I can recollect having anything to do in Bay Chaleurs they always were frightened at this three-mile restriction.

Q. You certainly understand my question. Were your fisherman of

the opinion that the three-mile inshore fisheries of the gulf were of use to them or not?—A. I think they considered them of considerable value.

Q. You think they did?—A. Yes.

Q. Did that opinion continue, or, if not, when did the opinion change?

—A. I don't know that that opinion has ever changed.

Q. Let me read you just a few lines from the remarks of Senator Hamlin. I suppose you are a supporter of his, that you have been, and are at this time?—A. Yes.

Q. He is a very able man?—A. He is said to be.

Q. After describing the magnitude and importance of the American fisheries "as the great fountains of commercial prosperity and naval power," he declared that "if American fisherman were kept out of these inshore waters, the immense amount of property thus invested would become useless, and leave them in want and beggary, or in prison in foreign jails."—A. That was in 1852. That was from headland to headland.

Q. Now my impression was that they were discussing the question irrespective of the headland question. They were discussing the question whether the fish were not caught within three miles of the shore.

Mr. DANA. It may save you the trouble of examining if I state the known fact which cannot affect the witness' mind, that that speech was made while Great Britain claimed the whole Bay of Fundy and all these bays.

Mr. WEATHERBE. He was arguing in favor of reciprocity. (To the witness.) Are you acquainted with Mr. Scudder, of Massachusetts?—A. No.

Q. Mr. Scudder, of Massachusetts, said, referring to the mackerel:

These fish are taken in the waters nearer to the coast than the codfish are. A considerable portion—from one-third to one-half—are taken on the coasts and in the bays and gulfs of the British provinces. The inhabitants of the provinces take many of them in boats and with seines. The boat and seine fishery is the more successful and profitable, and would be pursued by our fishermen were it not for the stipulations of the Convention of 1818, between the United States and Great Britain, by which it is contended that all the fisheries within three miles of the coast, with few unimportant exceptions, are secured to the provinces alone. Mr. Tuck, of New Hampshire, said: This inshore fishery, which we have renounced, is of great value, and extremely important to American fishermen. From the first of September to the close of the season, the mackerel run near the shore, and it is next to impossible for our vessels to obtain fares without taking fish within the prohibited limits. The truth is, our fishermen need absolutely and must have the thousands of miles of shore fishery which they have renounced, or they must always do an uncertain business. If our mackerel men are prohibited from going within three miles of the shore, and are forcibly kept away (and nothing but force will do it), then they may as well give up their business first as last. It will be always uncertain.

That was correct at that time?—A. No; Mr. Tuck never went fishing there.

Q. I don't suppose Senator Hamlin did either?—A. No.

Q. Were these opinions correct or not?—A. I guess not.

Q. They didn't represent the popular view?—A. I guess they were discussing the agitated question of the line from headland to headland.

Q. I will have to read it again. "The truth is, our fishermen need absolutely and must have the thousands of miles of inshore fishery which they have renounced, or they must always do an uncertain business."—

A. I understand perfectly. The idea of Mr. Tuck is that, because vessels are excluded from three miles, it must make the business uncertain.

Q. Do you think it was a profitable business outside in the gulf at that time, if they were excluded from within three miles?—A. It was a profitable business. It was so in 1852, and it continued so until 1868.

Q. If the American fishermen had been excluded by force, rigidly,

from within three miles of the shore, it would have been a profitable business from 1854 to 1868?—A. Yes; the mackerel have been dropping off since as early as 1866. Since the period I have mentioned it has not been profitable anywhere.

Q. Was that true at that time—that which I have read?—A. I guess it wants to be qualified some.

Q. Nobody seems to have controverted it in Congress?—A. If that refers strictly to within three miles of the shore, they attach more consequence to that three-mile restriction than the fishermen generally do.

Q. You said Senator Hamlin was a popular man. Didn't he represent the fishermen's views at that time?—A. I suppose he thought he was.

Q. Are you able to state that he did not?—A. What do you say?

Q. What great authority can you give us now that took a different view of the case at that time?—A. I say he attaches a greater consequence to it than the fishermen generally.

Q. Give me the name of any man of eminence.—A. I should very much rather have an opinion on that question from practical mackerel-men than from the honorable Hannibal Hamlin.

Q. Can you give me the opinion of practical mackerel-men obtained at that time?—A. I have seen them since I came to Halifax. I have conversed with a great many that know more about the fisheries than ever he did.

Q. Your own experience that morning exactly coincides with Senator Hamlin's views?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, now I ask you if you can give me the name of any practical mackerel-man who understood the question in 1852, and who would differ from Senator Hamlin?—A. I recollect that there was that controversy, since you have brought it up, but it has left my mind, and perhaps I never should have thought of it unless you had brought it up.

Q. What was the feeling of your best fishermen?—A. I am unable to say.

Q. But what their feelings are now, that we claim money, you are able to say?—A. Are you claiming money; is that so?

Q. You know that, don't you?—A. Well, I have heard something about money compensation, but I didn't know you were sincere in it, really.

Q. You think this is a farce?—A. I believe every word you say.

Q. I ask you whether you were not aware that the proceedings under which you were produced here were in consequence of a claim on the part of Great Britain for money?—A. Well, I recollect it has been talked of that you claimed money.

Q. Did you know you were brought as a witness to give evidence to resist it?—A. I know I came here to testify what I knew of the fishing in the bay.

Q. Did you know that the parties who brought you here were resisting a claim for money?—A. No; I did not.

Q. Do you know the provisions of the Washington Treaty with regard to the fisheries?—A. Well, the main part of the Washington Treaty I suppose I do know. I know we have a right of fishing inshore. Is not that correct?

Q. Certainly.—A. And I thought that the Englishmen thought the free fishing on our coast was insufficient to compensate you for our privilege of fishing inshore, and you wanted so much money on top of that. I never knew there was any sum or anything of that kind.

Q. You did understand the question?—A. I understood at the time it passed, but how many years is it since it passed?

Q. Well, never mind. What did you suppose this Commission was for?—A. I haven't thought of it for years.

Q. You didn't know we were trying that very question now?—A. I did.

Q. You gave your evidence with that knowledge?—A. Yes.

Q. You think now that the value of the inshore fishery has changed?—A. No; I have the same opinion that I have always had. I have said all through that they were valuable to us.

Q. Now with regard to the right of carrying our fish free into the United States, I suppose you think that is of no advantage to your fishermen, that provision of the treaty?—A. I have no idea it is any advantage to our side of the house.

Q. It is a disadvantage, isn't it?—A. Yes; it is against us.

Q. Be kind enough to explain how?—A. Well, all these things seem to me to be regulated by supply and demand. If there is 100,000 barrels of mackerel hove into our market on top of what we produce the tendency is to depreciate prices.

Q. If this provision of the treaty increases the supply of mackerel in the United States market it will bring down the price of fish?—A. State that again.

(Question repeated.)—A. I think it would have that tendency.

Q. That is the reason you think it is no advantage to your fishermen to have the privilege of fishing inside?—A. No; putting both provisions of the treaty together, it is no advantage, because the supply is increased and the prices are depreciated.

Q. You will admit this, that it is an advantage to the consumers by bringing down the price? You will admit that?—A. Yes.

Q. Then in point of fact it gives you cheap fish?—A. The tendency is to cheapen them.

Q. For the people of the United States?—A. Yes.

No. 54.

WILFORD J. FISHER, of Eastport, Me., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot:

Question. Of what place are you a native?—Answer. Grand Manan.

Q. How old are you?—A. Fifty-six.

Q. Where do you live now?—A. At Eastport, Me.

Q. How old were you when you moved to Eastport?—A. I could not tell you without thinking.

Q. You are fifty-six years old now. How long have you lived at Eastport?—A. Since 1845.

Q. What is your present occupation at Eastport?—A. I am agent of an express company, and am doing a general commission business.

Q. How long have you been doing that?—A. For the last six years.

Q. Do you recollect how old you were when you left Grand Manan and went to Eastport?—A. I left Grand Manan when I was twenty-two years of age.

Q. While you lived on Grand Manan what was your occupation?—A. My father kept an extensive fishing establishment and was fitting out fishing vessels. I worked with him until I was twenty-one or twenty-two years of age.

Q. Describe to the Commission what sort of business you were engaged in while assisting your father in this business?—A. Our business was fitting out fishermen, curing fish, drying fish, and marketing them after I got old enough.

Q. You were engaged in that until you were twenty-two?—A. Yes.

Q. About what time did you go into your father's business? Early?—A. I used to go to school in the day-time and work in the fish-yard night and morning before and after school. As I got older I took more charge of the business.

Q. As I understand you the time you left school and went into the establishment entirely you were twenty-one years old and were in charge of the whole department of fitting vessels, dealing with the fish, taking them to market included?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, after that what did you do?—A. After that I went to sea for two years.

Q. What do you mean when you say you went to sea; did you go as a fisherman?—A. No; I went in a merchant vessel.

Q. Your father's vessel?—A. No; in an American vessel.

Q. After that?—A. After that I brought up in Eastport and went into business.

Q. What sort of business at Eastport?—A. Fitting out fishermen and general business, curing fish, and trading in West India produce, and all kinds of business done by our general stores.

Q. How long did that continue?—A. 15 years.

Q. What did you do after that?—A. I went to Grand Manan again and weir-fished for 8 or 10 years. About that time I commenced to make herring oil. I had weirs at Grand Manan, and went over and engaged in the manufacture of herring oil and smoking herring.

Q. How long did you remain at Grand Manan?—A. 8 or 9 years, I think; I made no calculation and should not like to state exactly. Somewhere about that time.

Q. Well, after you went to Grand Manan did you return to Eastport?—A. Yes.

Q. You have been ever since at Eastport?—A. Yes.

Q. What business have you been in since?—A. Express and general commission business. I have been buying hake-sounds for parties in Boston.

Q. As I understood, when you went back to Grand Manan you were doing a weir business?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What have you done with them?—A. I have them still.

Q. Do you work them yourself?—A. No; I rent them.

Q. You have been renting them ever since?—A. I have been renting them the last six years. Sometimes I rent them for an annual payment for the privilege, and some of the weirs I rent on a fifth, building the weirs myself. In other cases I make a trade with them to build the weirs for so much, and give me so much net proceeds. I make the best trade I can.

Q. How many weirs are you interested in?—A. Three large weirs. One we didn't build this year. Only two were built this year, on account of the smoked herring being very low.

Q. Are you still employed in smoking herring and curing them?—A. Yes; in the way I have stated.

Q. I want you to explain to the Commission the character of the business done at the weirs. What force have you employed there?—A. Well, the weirs are built in the eddies, places where the herring frequent. They are caught in the weirs. The weirs are built so that the

tide never leaves them. We are obliged to do that so as not to destroy the herring, to have none die in the weirs. They have a large gate which takes boats 12 feet wide and we take them in masts and all. We can open it twelve feet wide the whole height of the weir so that the boat comes in without stepping the masts. We seine the herring that are in the weir and put them in the boats, then take them ashore and wash them out, scale them and string them on sticks and put them in the smoke-house, smoke them and box them. After being boxed we sell them wherever we can get most money for them.

Q. What force have you employed in those weirs?—A. When I fished there myself I had five to twelve men according to the season. Some months we are obliged to employ more men than others.

Q. On each weir?—A. No; that would be what we call a gang.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. How many men are required to manage one weir?—A. Twelve men to manage one weir.

Q. It would take twelve men?—A. Yes; that would be for two or three months; that is all.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. What months?—A. October has usually been the best month for the last two years. Six or eight years ago we used to catch them even earlier in the season. Sometimes we got a heavy haul of herring in April. Last year we got a very heavy catch in April.

Q. Then it comes in the fall again?—A. Yes; they come towards fall again. They vary with the seasons on account of the weather or some other cause we can't control. They are about sure to come within a month or six weeks.

Q. Can you tell the Commissioners what is the proportion, as far as catching herring is concerned, in Grand Manan of the weir fishery to the sea fishery? Could you form any idea at all?—A. I don't know that I understand the question. You mean the proportion of herring caught in weir to the proportion caught in nets?

Q. Yes; at sea in nets and boats.

Mr. THOMSON. What do you mean by at sea?

Mr. TRESBOT. I mean the proportion caught in weirs as compared with those not so caught. I don't care whether inshore or out.—A. There is none of the class we catch in weirs but very few that are caught in boats. The herring we smoke are smaller than these caught in nets and boats.

Q. Then the smoked herring are essentially from weir-fishing?—A. Yes; exclusively so, except as to a few large herring smoked late in the year, or partly smoked, that they call bloaters.

Q. The herring fishery at Grand Manan consists of different classes of fish. There is the smoked herring, that is one class?—A. Yes.

Q. What others?—A. The other business is to catch them in nets for bait to catch line fish with, and another business is to catch them in nets to freeze them and sell them fresh for food. There is a very few people who follow the catching of herring to pack in barrels of salt because the market has been so dull. It is not followed much and has not been for a number of years to any extent. It is followed some, but not to the extent it used to be.

Q. Now what are pickled herring?—A. They are herring caught in nets, put in barrels, and sold as pickled herring.

Q. They are the same kind that are caught and frozen, but not the same kind that are smoked?—A. Just so.

Q. Then you have the smoked herring, the fresh herring caught for bait; the herring that is caught and frozen for bait and food, and the pickled herring, which you say is a very small proportion of the business; so I understand you?—A. You understand pretty nearly. But the freezing of the herring for food can only be done in cold weather, so that if the weather is not cold enough some of that is pickled, but not much is pickled otherwise, as the salt and barrels are an expense.

TUESDAY, October 1, 1877.

The Commission met.

Examination of WILFORD J. FISHER continued.

By Mr. Trescot:

Question. When you closed yesterday, you had described the way of fishing to the Commissioners, and stated that the smoked-herring fishery at Grand Manan was almost essentially a weir-fishery; can you give the Commission any idea of what the amount of smoked-herring business is at Grand Manan?—Answer. I estimate the amount of smoked herring cured at Grand Manan at 400,000 boxes.

Q. Annually?—A. Yes; annually.

Q. Where is the market for these smoked herring?—A. In the United States almost altogether.

Q. These herring are shipped directly from the Island of Grand Manan?—A. They are now, under the present arrangements, under the treaty.

Q. In what are they shipped? In American vessels or by parties in the island?—A. There are four English vessels that have been running in, one from New York and three to Boston. These vessels are owned by people at Grand Manan. Then there are occasionally other vessels chartered to load herring for Boston.

Q. Do I understand by that that they are chartered by Grand Manan people?—A. Yes.

Q. What vessels are these generally?—A. Just such vessels as they can pick up. It does not make any difference as to the character of the vessels running from Grand Manan to New York or Boston. Either English or American vessels can go.

Q. You say there are four vessels owned by people in Grand Manan in which they ship smoked herring to Boston and New York?—A. Yes; a large part of them; and a large part of them are sold at Eastport.

Q. Mostly caught in weirs?—A. Altogether in weirs.

Q. Then there would be no portion that would be caught by Americans?—A. No; unless they went there and leased part of the weir.

Q. It is all a Grand Manan fishery essentially; the cargo is shipped in Grand Manan vessels and shipped by the people of Grand Manan?—A. Yes; in addition to the smoked herring business at Grand Manan, the island of Campobello smokes, I should think, 250,000 boxes; Indian Island, Deer Island, and the rest of the small islands around the immediate vicinity about 50,000 more. I should say there were 700,000 boxes of smoked herring cured in our immediate vicinity on these British islands.

Q. These fisheries at Campobello, Deer Island, and the neighboring islands are all fisheries of the natives of those islands?—A. Yes.

Q. Now with regard to the frozen and pickled herring, what sort of a business is done at Grand Manan and the islands adjacent, to the best of your knowledge, in that article?—A. The frozen herring and pickled herring are the same herring, caught in the same way and by the same

men. The frozen herring business can only be carried on in the winter when the weather is cold. If a man sets his net for bait and gets more herring than he wants to use, he salts them in barrels; that is the only way he can utilize them at this time. In the winter season they fit out exclusively for this frozen herring business, but there are times in the winter season when thaws come on and soft weather; then, if a man sets his nets out and catches fish, he can't freeze them, and he then pickles them in barrels. But there is no way they can make so much money out of herring as freezing them and selling them in a frozen state; it requires no barrels and no salt, and the outlay is labor altogether.

Q. Well, by whom is the catching of herring for the purpose of freezing conducted generally?—A. Mostly altogether in our vicinity by Dominion fishermen. There is a small number of fishermen at Eastport that, when there is no herring there, would go down to Letite and Back Bay, and amongst the islands; but the number of Dominion fishermen is very small.

Q. What is the proportion of the foreign fishing compared with that of the natives at Grand Manan?—A. I think Eastport does not send 25 boats or vessels in the frozen-herring business on the shores of the Dominion of Canada. Perhaps in relation to that I had better state a circumstance: there are a good many people living at Eastport who are British subjects; they have British vessels; they fish in British vessels. On the other hand, there is a number of American vessels that have been owned and are owned at Deer Island and other places on the Dominion side, that are owned and sailed by Dominion men, but still are under American register; they have never been transferred. But the number of Americans who leave our place to go fishing for frozen herring is comparatively small in proportion to the whole number engaged in the business.

Q. What is done with these frozen herring, are they shipped?—A. Yes, sir. There is a good many of these bought at Eastport by the people there who engage in that business, and are shipped on the steamer to Boston. But a large quantity is sold to American vessels that go there and buy them.

Q. For the purpose of bait?—A. No; mostly for food. I should suppose those that come for bait only take small quantities. Those that come from Gloucester carry away full loads.

Q. Well, besides these two herring fisheries, what are the fisheries around Grand Manan?—A. The fishing around Grand Manan is codfish, pollock, haddock, and hake.

Q. Are these fisheries within three miles of the shore or off shore?—A. Some are within three miles.

Q. Which? Tell the Commissioners where the fisheries are, as a rule.—A. There is a time early in the spring and late in the fall when the fish come in close to the shores at Grand Manan, codfish and haddock principally. The haddock around Grand Manan is caught inshore mostly altogether—mostly within the three-mile limit. The pollock and codfish are mostly caught outside of the three-mile limit. Gravelly ground is a great place for pollock, and that, in my judgment, is without the limit. The hake fishing, since trawling has commenced, they have gone off shore. It was always supposed that you had to get a muddy bottom to catch hake. This trawling business has brought up a new idea, and the fishermen have found their best hake last year and this year on hard bottom between Campobello and Grand Manan in deep water—larger fish and more of them—and the fleet of vessels that have followed hake fishing this year have most all exclusively confined

themselves to that fishing-ground which I consider without the three miles.

Q. Of these four fisheries, hake, haddock, pollock, and cod, what is the respective value? I mean as fisheries.—A. The quantity of hake, and their value, I could give you very near, but the others would be, of course, more liable not to be correct. I am largely engaged in the sound business. The quintal of hake makes one and a quarter pounds of sounds, and it is not only my business to know what sounds I buy myself, but how much are brought in the neighborhood, and whose hands they go into. This year the hake business has been larger than any year since my remembrance.

Q. This year, I understand, it has been offshore?—A. Yes, a very large catch. I estimate the quantity of sounds this year in our district, including in that Grand Manan and everything from Point Lepreau, 33,000 pounds. Perhaps it may be more, 1,000 pounds over. It will not, I think, go under. By taking a quarter from that you have the quantity of hake caught. Now, last year we didn't get quite ten tons of sounds altogether in the whole district.

Q. What I want to get at is this: What is the relative proportion that the hake fishing bears to the haddock, cod, or pollock? Which is the most valuable, I mean generally?—A. The inshore or offshore?

Q. Take it altogether, and then I will ask you separately. Is the haddock offshore or inshore?—A. It is offshore and inshore.

Q. How about the pollock?—A. The pollock is caught more offshore than in.

Q. Then the codfish?—A. The codfish are almost exclusively caught offshore, except, as I tell you, in the early spring or late in the fall there is a school of small codfish that strikes within the limits, and the people there catch them more or less.

Q. Then, as I understand, generally the codfish is an offshore fishery—the valuable codfish?—A. Yes.

Q. The hake is offshore also?—A. Yes.

Q. The pollock is also offshore?—A. Yes.

Q. And the haddock is inshore and offshore?—A. Yes, but understand me, I don't say there is not a few hake, pollock, and cod inshore.

Q. I mean generally. Now of these four which is the most valuable?—A. At Grand Manan this year the hake fishery is the most valuable by far. At Campobello the hake offshore is most valuable.

Q. Now, by whom are these fisheries mainly conducted at Grand Manan?—A. They are conducted by the inhabitants of Grand Manan.

Q. Is there a large proportion of American fishermen engaged in these fisheries within your knowledge?—A. I know of Americans who go there and hire by the month to the weir fishermen.

Q. No, I am talking about the American boats and vessels?—A. The quantity of American boats and vessels that go there to fish inside is very small, very small indeed.

Q. Could you form any estimate what would be the annual value of the fishery at Grand Manan, taking the opposite coast, and taking the neighborhood generally, from your experience as a man of business with some practical acquaintance with the operations yourself as a merchant; what would be the annual value, including Grand Manan and the coast from Letite to St. Andrews and Lepreau?—A. I should set the value of the fish caught at Grand Manan at not over \$400,000. They might go \$500,000, but I think if I had \$500,000 I would have some left.

Q. That is for Grand Manan. Now for the coast on the other side.—

A. From Point Lepreau to St. Andrews and all the islands connected, including Campobello, I should put less than a million. It is a pretty hard thing to estimate, but I should say considerably less than a million, with everything included—herring, oil, the fish-tummies, smoked herring, hake sounds, and the fish themselves.

Q. That excludes Grand Manan?—A. Yes; I put down Grand Manan at \$400,000, and all the other places around our vicinity at not over a million.

Q. Now, I will read some questions put to and answers made by a gentleman supposed to be familiar with that portion of the fisheries, and without asking you to contradict him, I want to ask you how far your judgment agrees with his. I refer to the evidence of James Maclean, merchant, Letite, parish of St. George, Charlotte County, New Brunswick; do you know him?—A. Very well; I am very intimate with him.

Q. These are the questions and answers, if you will attend to them:

Q. Judging from your practical knowledge of the fishery, being an owner of vessels, and dealing with the men who fish as you do, what do you say, at a low figure, would be the value of the fisheries and the actual worth of the fish caught by British subjects between the points you mention from Lepreau to Letite; what would be a fair average value from 1871?—A. I should estimate the quantity for Charlotte County and the adjoining islands. We all fish, and it would be difficult to separate the two.

Q. You are acquainted with the value of the islands as well?—A. Yes; I visit Grand Manan occasionally, and the adjoining islands often.

Q. What is the catch of the whole?—A. A low estimate for our fishing would be \$1,000,000 for each year.

Q. For British subjects?—A. Yes.

Q. That is a low estimate?—A. I think I am under the mark; in fact, I have no doubt of it at all.

Q. And it may be a good deal more?—A. Yes.

Q. You have not a shadow of a doubt that it is at least a million?—A. No.

Q. And our American friends take a considerable amount more?—A. They take as many.

Q. They have more men and more vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. And they take at least as much?—A. Yes, fully as much as we do, if not more.

Q. Have you any doubt that they take more?—A. I believe that they take more.

Q. You have no doubt of it?—A. No.

Q. With your knowledge, would you say that was an accurate statement of the fishing between Letite and Lepreau?—A. I shall not alter my estimate by hearing that.

Q. Do you know of any American vessels engaged in these waters, in those fisheries, taking anything like an approximate amount of a million?—A. No; it is impossible. It is erroneous. The imports of the country would not show it, and cannot show it; it is impossible.

Q. Now, here is from another witness whom you may know also, Walter B. McLaughlan, light-house keeper and fishery-overseer at Grand Manan, in the county of Charlotte, New Brunswick?—A. I have known him from a boy.

Q. (Reads:)

Q. You are well acquainted with the fisheries of Charlotte County; take the mainland fishing from Letite as far as Lepreau, is that a good fishing ground?—A. It is considered a good fishing ground; I am not personally acquainted with it, and can only say from what I have heard. My duties have never carried me there.

Q. But your practical knowledge extends there?—A. Yes.

Q. What would be the value of the mainland fishery, the British fishery alone, taking it from Letite to Lepreau?—A. My own fishery is, say, \$500,000; Campobello and West Isles must equal mine, and the mainland will certainly be more than half of that, if not equal to it.

Q. Well, then, you put Campobello and West Isles as about equal to Grand Manan?—A. Yes; speaking as I do. Not knowing exactly, I should say so.

Q. That would be a half a million for these two islands, and a half a million for Grand Manan, that makes a million, and you think the mainland is half as much as either of those; that would be a fair estimate for the mainland?—A. Yes; Charlotte

County is a very important fishing county. In 1861 I was a census enumerator, and I think the result of the fishing in that county nearly equalled that of all the other fisheries of the province, with the exception of St. John County.

Q. You put half a million as the catch of the British fishermen on the mainland for the year, and, in your judgment, the American catch is the same?—A. All I can judge is by what I hear; they come down in their vessels; I think they have their own way on the North Shore, very much more than on Grand Manan. I have a great deal of trouble with them there. But on the North Shore I think they have things pretty much as they want. I would say that they probably surpass our own catch.

Now does your judgment conform with that statement?—A. If I heard that correctly, he estimates Grand Manan at \$500,000, and Campobello and the adjacent islands \$500,000, and half a million for the mainland.

Q. If he means that the mainland is half of Campobello and West Isles, it would be only \$250,000?—A. He is under my estimate, but I should not alter my estimate.

Q. You put half a million for the mainland for a year? You don't agree with him?—A. No; I think he should have added \$250,000 more.

Q. Now he is asked if, in his judgment, the American catch is the same as the British, and answers, "All I can judge by is what I hear. They come down in their vessels. I think they have their own way on the North shore very much more than at Grand Manan." Have you any idea that that is correct?—A. No. As I have said before, of that amount caught there there is not one-fifth that is caught by Americans. I would be safe in saying less.

Q. At page 256 he is asked by Mr. Foster what he includes in the mainland. Mr. Thomson answers, "From Point Lepreau to Letite;" and the witness says, "From Point Lepreau to St. Andrew's." Then the question is asked, "You make one million and a half taken by Americans and the same by British fishermen," and the answer is yes; and then he answers in the affirmative to the question whether that is a low estimate.—A. That is where we differ. I say that of one and a half million taken, not more than one-fifth of that quantity may be taken by American fishermen. That includes off shore and inshore.

Q. You have been living in Eastport of late years?—A. Yes.

Q. And you know the neighborhood of Eastport, Lubec, and Cutler?—A. Yes, very well, indeed.

Q. Now, we have been told, although I can't find the evidence—what are the occupations of those places?—A. Eastport is what you would call a fitting village or town, or whatever you may call it—about 4,000 population. The merchants there fit out fishermen, but those fishermen that they fit out are the same men that come up from those islands—they come up to Eastport and fit out there to prosecute this fishery on the North shore, at Grand Manan, and other places in the Bay of Fundy. The amount of American vessels fitted from Eastport in the fishery business is very small, and it is decreasing every year, because it has not been a paying business. Then Eastport sends a number of vessels to the Magdalen Islands in the spring for herring. That has been heretofore quite a business with us, and is still followed up. Not so much this last year as formerly, because year before last they lost a great deal of money by the Magdalen herring, on account of the price of smoked Magdalen herring declining very much in the market. A good many people kept Magdalen herring lying in the smoke-house until this year. They didn't sell them until this year. Then there is a certain number of small boats and vessels which don't exceed 25 at the outside, in my estimation, that fit out for this fishery; that is, hake fishing and frozen herring off shore. That is about the extent at Eastport. Then

Lubec, which is in the same district as Eastport, I think fits six vessels, with which they fish exclusively on the Bank. They don't fish on the inshore ground. I could name these vessels, but I didn't bring any list. Then Lemoine, in Maine, has had at Grand Manan this year, fishing, three vessels. They fish without the limits. What we call Lubec Narrows has had one. Cutler has had two. At Pembroke, Perry, and all these places the people are not fishermen. They don't go fishing. They may take a boat when the pollack is in, in the summer, and go down one or two days, and catch a few fish to take home for the winter's use, but they don't make a practice of fishing and they have not.

Q. This question was asked Mr. Maclelan: "Along that coast, from Eastport and Lubec toward Mount Desert, are there not great numbers of fishing villages that depend upon fishing for a living?" And the answer was: "They are about the same as our own; they live on coasting, fishing, farming, lumbering, and so on, just exactly as ours do. I know no difference between them." Then the question was asked: "Without our fisheries could they live by fishing?" And the answer was: "No; because if they could they would not come to our fisheries. They would not come so far away. They do not have fisheries of their own." Now, of course, without the fisheries they could not live by fishing; but do you know of any community from Eastport to Mount Desert that depends upon fishing, and that would be compelled to go over to Grand Manan waters to fish?—A. No; not for the last twenty years. As I tell you, Lemoine had this year three vessels; last year it had two. They used to have eight or ten thirty years ago. And these men have gone into the Bank fishing to Grand Bank. This year there are only three that have favored the Bay of Fundy fishing, and they fish on the Grand Manan Bank, at a place which is outside the limits.

Q. In your experience in the smoked herring business could the business sustain a duty of a dollar a barrel?—A. Well, it has always been by the box. I think the old duty was five cents a bag.

Q. If that duty were reimposed what would be the effect?—A. The people would have to stop smoking them now.

Q. How is it about the accuracy of this statement, according to your judgment: "Q. Now, taking Grand Manan, judging by the returns that the fishermen give you, can you tell us what each family makes by fishing? Do you know that from statements of their own, or from personal observation?"—A. I think \$1,000 a year would be the utmost each would make. I don't mean clear; they certainly would not clear that?—A. I should think that was large. Still, as I don't visit Grand Manan, and I don't know how the people live there now, I should rather not answer as to that.

Q. What would you estimate to be the money-value of the fish that the average fisherman would catch there in a year?—A. They would have to be divided into a good many classes—the weir-fishermen, the hake-fishermen, and the people of Grand Manan farm a good deal in connection with their fishing. They all raise their own potatoes, and have cows, and are well to do. It would be a pretty hard thing for me to state.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Did you ever know a fisherman who prosecuted that business for a living and got rich?—A. Some I know of since we had reciprocity, both at Grand Manan and Deer Island, who went into the smoked-herring and herring-oil business that are very well off.

Q. Well, that is business?—A. Yes, sir; but I never knew a man

who hauled the fish out of the water with his hands line-fishing that ever got rich.

Q. You have never known one that laid up money?—A. No; not in that business alone.

Q. Have you an opinion as to the effect of throwing gurry over on the fishing grounds?—A. That has been talked over among the fishermen for the last 40 years. I have somewhat changed my mind in regard to it. We used to think once it was a great injury, but I have about made up my mind that this gurry is devoured by sea-fleas, star-fish, and other insects that inhabit the water, and that it is not so great an injury as we have heretofore thought it. I have no doubt that the gurry thrown overboard will attract dog-fish, cat-fish, skates, and that kind of fish in large numbers while it lasts, but I don't think it injures the fishing grounds to the extent supposed.

Q. Do you think the effect would last from one season to another?—A. No.

Q. What do you say about the effect of trawling?—A. I think trawling is an injury to the fish, inasmuch as trawls set in the mouth of the bay will catch the mother fish as they come in to spawn. And I think they are an injury so far as they catch these mother fish. I don't think the trawls frighten the fish or drive them out, but I think they catch the mother fish as they come in to spawn, and thereby decrease the quantity.

Q. You speak of the mouths of the bays. Would it be the case off the coast on the Banks?—A. It would not do so much injury there. I don't know that it would do any injury there at all. It would only be an injury on spawning grounds or in the road—set in the road where the fish come in to spawn.

Q. On the spawning grounds or at the mouth of a bay of moderate size?—A. On the spawning grounds or in the road that the fish take to the spawning grounds, it would be an injury.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. You live now at Eastport?—A. Yes.

Q. I understood you to say you came from Grand Manan?—A. I was born there and lived there until I was 22.

Q. I understood that you owned American vessels?—A. No.

Q. That you yourself owned American vessels or shares in them after you went to Eastport?—A. I owned shares in American vessels, freighting vessels, and I also owned a share in the brig I went to the coast of Labrador in.

Q. Was that an American or English vessel?—American registry. I also owned a share in an English vessel that I went to Newfoundland herring fishing in.

Q. Well, in order to hold an American registry you must have been an American citizen?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. After leaving Grand Manan you were naturalized?—A. Yes.

Q. How long ago were you naturalized?—A. I was naturalized, I think, about 1851 or 1852; I am not certain. I had to live in the United States five years before I got naturalized.

Q. At present you are an American citizen and have been since 1851 or 1852?—A. Yes.

Q. Your sympathies are naturally with the American side of this question?—A. My sympathies are for the right, and have been ever since I was a boy in this fishery. Whatever is right.

Q. Well, that is a very wide term. It depends on our stand-point.

Your sympathies are with the American view of this question?—A. Not unless they are right.

Q. Well, then, I will put it in another way. You think the American view is right?—A. I don't know about that. I have my own views, and I think they are right.

Q. Do your views differ from the American views; do you differ from your neighbors in Eastport?—A. I differ from some of them, and agree with a good many Dominion people I have talked with. I have also differed from some of them.

Q. Do you consider that the Americans ought not to pay anything under this Commission?—A. No; I don't think they should. I think the markets they get are a full equivalent.

Q. Well, that is all I want to know. Your sympathies, then, are with the American views?—A. I don't take it on the line of sympathy. I take it on the line of right, of justice between man and man.

Q. At all events, your view is that the Americans should not pay a dollar?—A. Not if they keep the markets open.

Q. Well, as the matter now stands?—A. I think that is a full equivalent.

Q. That is your idea?—A. For the inshore fisheries. I think the opening of the American markets is an equivalent for the Dominion fisheries inside of three miles.

Q. Well, when you say that, from what stand-point are you speaking, the fisherman's or the merchant's? Or do you take a broad, patriotic view of the matter?—A. I am speaking from my own judgment in the business I have followed through life and am still following.

Q. Well, when you say that the free market is an entire equivalent for our fisheries, who do you say the free market is given by; at whose expense? Is it at the expense of the American fishermen or the body of the United States people?—A. The free market and taking off the duty is in favor of the fishermen.

Q. The American fishermen?—A. No, the Dominion fishermen.

Q. And against whom is it?—A. If the duty was put on it would be against the Dominion fishermen.

Q. Well, against whom is the taking off of the duty?—A. It is against the United States, of course.

Q. But what class in the United States?—A. I don't know how you intend to class them. I suppose the United States is a country, and if the country takes it off, I suppose the country must make up the amount.

Q. How did you class the British fishermen? You thought it was an advantage to them to have the duty off?—A. Simply because it gives him a better market for the fish he produces.

Q. Tell me why you cannot class the Americans. Tell me what effect it has on the American fishermen, taking off the duty. Have you not thought of it at all?—A. I don't know that I ever heard a fisherman speaking in regard to it.

Q. And you are serious, then, you never heard an American fisherman complain of this duty being taken off?—A. I don't know that I have.

Q. Have you ever thought of this, as a practical man, whether it affects the American fisherman at all or not?—A. I have given it a good deal of thought.

Q. Whom does it affect, the merchant or the fisherman?—A. I say this, that to put on a duty of five cents a box on smoked herring by the

American Government would amount almost to a prohibition of the smoked-herring business.

Q. Well, how as to \$2 a barrel on mackerel?—A. Mackerel is a fish I don't know much about. I never fished it. I have packed a good many while I was fish inspector at Eastport, twenty-five years.

Q. Are there any being smoked on the American shores as at Campobello?—A. Yes.

Q. Would they increase in price in consequence of a duty?—A. I cannot answer that question.

Q. Are you serious about that?—A. I am. If you put on a duty and call me after it has been in operation a few years, I will answer that question. I can't anticipate anything that might happen.

Q. You are serious in saying that five cents a box on herring would be a prohibition to British fisheries, but you can't say whether, if they were prohibited, it would have the effect of raising the price of American fish?—A. No, I could not say.

Q. Then, according to you, the influx of British fish has no effect upon the price of American fish at all?—A. I didn't say so.

Q. Well, do you say so? I think it follows from what you have said?—A. I don't say anything about it.

Q. Do you decline to give any opinion in regard to it?—A. I won't at the present time.

Q. Have you any doubt that the fish sent in from the British provinces has a sensible effect in making the price of fish smaller in the United States market?—A. They may have that tendency to keep the price down.

Q. Tell me if you believe they have that tendency or not?—A. I think they may have that tendency.

Q. Do you say that they have that tendency?—A. The more fish put on the market, of course the tendency is that way, but there is a point beyond which that tendency is inoperative. The moment you reach the point of the consumer, when he can't afford to pay, he has to buy some other article of food. Since my time the quantity of smoked herring sold in the United States markets has increased tremendously. The prices they are selling for now are 20 cents in New York, 21 cents in Boston, and 15 cents in Eastport. With the boxes of the present size that will pay the fishermen, but at the sizes they made boxes fifteen or twenty years ago, no fisherman could follow it. When you come to increase the price of herring over 25 cents per box the consumers won't buy them.

Q. There is a certain amount of fish of that description carried into the United States and certain prices are paid. I presume you got the same price for American fish as you got for English cured fish. Is it not so? I mean smoked fish in boxes.—A. Yes.

Q. I want you to tell me, if you will, whether the importation of that kind of fish from the provinces has any effect on the price of American fish?—A. I presume it may have some effect; but, as I told you before, I cannot answer that question, because last year smoked herring was 9 cents a box.

Q. Do you say it makes a difference or not—the importation of that fish from the provinces—on the price of American fish?—A. Last year we had the same supplies, and smoked herring were 9 cents a box; and this year, with still the same supplies, they are 15 cents a box at Eastport. I cannot tell what occasions the difference in price. I suppose the consumption rules it more than anything else.

Q. Does the importation of American fish affect the price, injuriously

or otherwise, of American cured fish of the same description?—A. I could not tell you.

Q. You have no opinion on the subject at all?—A. No.

Q. I now ask you if the fish that come in from the British provinces have not the effect of making the fish cheaper to the consumer, whatever effect it may have on the fishermen?—A. I don't know but what it may.

Q. Have you any doubt about it?—A. I cannot form any correct estimate, because the price is not two years alike. But there is one thing I can assure you, that the price of fish can never rise above a certain level, because it then gets beyond the reach of the consumer, and when it goes beyond the consumer's means he will not buy it. Consequently that will regulate itself.

Q. Does not the larger supply of fish that comes in from the provinces under the treaty, than what did before the treaty, have the effect of diminishing the price of fish, and therefore diminishing the price to the consumer?—A. I cannot answer the question; I don't know.

Q. Though you have dealt in fish forty years?—A. Yes; fully forty years.

Q. How often have you gone of late years to Grand Manan to look how the fisheries are carried on?—A. I have not been at Grand Manan much for the last six years.

Q. You have not been there for the last six years?—A. I have been there, but not much.

Q. How many visits in the last six years?—A. Three or four visits.

Q. And how long would the visit be on each occasion?—A. Not very long.

Q. About how long?—A. Sometimes one day, sometimes only a few hours.

Q. Then each visit would not average half a day?—A. Perhaps not.

Q. And how many visits have you made in six years?—A. I have made perhaps four, maybe five.

Q. What season of the year would you visit Grand Manan?—A. In summer time.

Q. The summer time is not the brisk fishing-season there?—A. Yes.

Q. I thought it was spring and fall?—A. It depends on what kind of fish you have reference to.

Q. Take herring.—A. The frozen herring are only taken in the winter. The smoked-herring trade is in the summer at the center of the island, Wood's Cove, and round there, and late in the fall at White Head, Three Islands, Two Islands, and other parts of the island. They don't commence their smoked-herring fishing there till later in the season.

Q. For six years you have only been there five times, on an average half a day at a time, and of course you have had no opportunity of knowing from personal observation what American vessels fished round the island nor what American boats fished round the island. That is obvious, is it not?—A. I think I have.

Q. Although you have not been there?—A. Although I have not been there.

Q. I said from personal observation.—A. I have not seen an American boat fishing at Grand Manan; not in the act of fishing.

Q. From personal observation you could not possibly say?—A. I have not seen any fishing there. I deal with all those men.

Q. Then the information you have been pleased to give the Commission in regard to the business done at Grand Manan has not been from

personal knowledge, but from information received from other persons?

—A. I do not say so.

Q. Do you not state that now?—A. I lived in Grand Manan until I was 22 years of age.

Q. I confine you to the last six years. During the whole of that time you did not visit the island scarcely once a year, five times during six years. From personal observation you have admitted you cannot speak of the island during those years.—A. I told you I had not seen any fish caught there.

Q. All the information you have been pleased to give the Commission in regard to the fishing round Grand Manan, and the quantity taken by American and British subjects, has been based on hearsay?—A. It has been based on my own actual knowledge, and from conversation with Grand Manan people and others, and men engaged in the business.

Q. Is not that hearsay?—A. You may call it what you have a mind to; I don't purpose to call it hearsay.

Q. I understand you to swear that information you got from other persons, depending on others entirely for the truth of those statements, you decline to call hearsay?—A. I say you can call it hearsay. I come here and swear to the best of my judgment in regard to this matter, from my personal knowledge of Grand Manan, having been a long time resident there, having fished there, and having been through the whole thing; from conversation with men there engaged in the business, and having had business transactions with them, and from receiving accounts and getting my pay from weirs I own there, which is pretty good authority, in my opinion.

Q. I wish to get from you exactly what the authority is; that is hearsay, is it not? Do you say you own weirs there?—A. I own shares in weirs there.

Q. Who are the other owners with you, Grand Manan people or Eastport people?—A. With the exception of my sister, they are Grand Manan people. My sister owns a share with me; she lives in Eastport.

Q. She has not been naturalized?—A. No; I did not know it was required of women.

Q. Do you include the herring you take in your weirs in the American catch?—A. No; I pay the government a tax for the weirs, and I suppose they must claim the fishing.

Q. Do you include that portion of the fish out of the weirs which comes to your share as being part of the American catch?—A. I include it as being part of the Dominion catch, it being caught at Grand Manan.

Q. Though it is taken by an American citizen simply doing business in our waters, and you call that British catch?—A. I do; it was caught in British waters, and I pay \$10 a year to the Dominion Government on each weir.

Q. Therefore it is British catch?—A. I presume so; it is caught in British waters and cured on British soil.

Q. Then if Americans come in and catch fish very nearly the same place in their vessels, which would be taken out of British waters, you would call that British catch?—A. British vessels cannot smoke herring on board their vessels.

Q. Do I understand that if American vessels come in and catch herring or any other fish within three miles of the shore, in British waters, that you call it British catch?—A. No; if an American vessel catches fish in British waters within three miles of the shore, I call it American catch, but caught in British waters.

Q. You have been pleased to put the value of all the catch round

Grand Manan at \$400,000 a year?—A. Yes; I said that I call it, in my judgment, not over \$400,000; not to exceed \$500,000.

Q. Do you mean British or American catch or both?—A. I mean all that is caught within three miles by both parties or all men. A great many Nova Scotia people come down and camp. I mean that is the catch of the island.

Q. This you give as your opinion from having been on the island one season a year for six years, and that for half a day?—A. I gave that opinion as being to the best of my knowledge, and I obtained it from reliable sources.

Q. Do you know Mr. W. B. McLaughlin?—A. I have known him for a long time.

Q. Is he a respectable man?—A. Yes.

Q. Is he a credible man?—A. I should think so. I don't know anything to the contrary.

Q. He is not a man who would make a misstatement under oath willfully?—A. I would not suppose he would.

Q. Are you aware that it was his business to find out what the actual catch of the British subjects was, and to make a return to the government?—A. I was aware he was fishery warden. I pay my weir-tax to him.

Q. You are not aware that it was his business to find what the actual catch of the island was, and to make a return to the government?—A. I don't know.

Q. Mr. McLaughlin has stated that such was his business, and from the returns made by the people themselves, which, he stated, were entirely under the mark, he found that their catch amounted to half a million dollars. Are you prepared to contradict that statement?—A. I am prepared to let my statement stand as based on my judgment.

Q. Either state that Mr. McLaughlin's statement is untrue or that it is not.—A. I will not make any such statement. I will say that Mr. McLaughlin, I think, has erred in judgment.

Q. At page 254 of Mr. McLaughlin's testimony there is the following:

Q. Will you tell me what is the value of the fish taken by our own people each year on the island?—A. Well, I could tell from my fishing returns of last year. I could have brought them all.

Q. Do you make up your return for the whole year?—A. Yes; from the 1st January to the 31st December.

Q. You do not make it up for the fiscal year?—A. No; I am ordered to make it up to the 31st December. The return states itself that it is so made up. The amount in my estimate, as I made it up from inquiry last year, is \$383,891, but that is far under the real catch.

Q. You say that it is far under the actual value of the catch. How do you account for its being under the amount?—A. Well, the fishermen are reluctant to give an account of what they make on account of the taxation. We have a free-school law now, and are taxed very heavily for it.

Q. It happens that you are an assessor of taxes?—A. I am at times, and I am a county councillor, and have been a census enumerator.

Q. And they do not like to give this information to you? You are the last person to whom they want to give it?—A. Well, I tell them that the Marine Department never lets such information go out of its possession. They tell me there is no need of its doing so; that I have it all in my hands. They say it is too thin.

Q. Then you believe the amount you have given is an underestimate?—A. I know it must be over half a million dollars; that is our old \$500,000.

He is a gentleman who swears that from the lips of the men themselves he got a statement that the catch each year amounted to \$383,891, in round numbers \$400,000, as being the British catch alone. He says that is underestimated, and it is at least \$100,000 more.—A. I cannot help it; I have given you my opinion.

Q. With your means of obtaining information, do you still presume to put your opinion against his?—A. I do; I don't depart from it one particle.

Q. Although it was Mr. McLaughlin's business to obtain a return of the catch?—A. I have given a great deal of thought and care to it for years.

Q. Then I understand you to say that the catch amounts to \$400,000 in round numbers, including the American catch and every catch all round the island?—A. Yes.

Q. Then Mr. McLaughlin has told an untruth deliberately, or those people lied to him when they said they caught \$383,891 in value, and in round numbers \$400,000; do you think the people have deliberately deceived Mr. McLaughlin?—A. I don't say so; Mr. McLaughlin may have deceived himself; I don't say whether he has been deceived or the people have been deceived.

Q. He got those figures from statements of the people themselves.—A. I gave mine from my own judgment, and I know of no reason to alter them.

Q. Is it probable, in your judgment, that the people of the island deceived Mr. McLaughlin as to their catch?—A. I don't know.

Q. Is it probable?—A. I don't know what the people and Mr. McLaughlin may do together.

Q. Do you think it is probable?—A. Mr. McLaughlin, until a few years ago, had lived on Gannet Rock, which is a long way from the mainland, and was not connected with the fisheries.

Q. Mr. McLaughlin has stated that he went from house to house and asked each man as to his catch?—A. That may be.

Q. You know Grand Manan; do you believe the people would deliberately deceive Mr. McLaughlin, and make believe that they caught more fish than they actually did?—A. I don't know; I cannot answer that question; I don't know what the people of Grand Manan told Mr. McLaughlin.

Q. You cannot form any opinion as to whether the people would deceive him or not?—A. I don't wish to form any opinion, because I do not think it is necessary. I don't wish to form one without due consideration, and unless I know with whom he talked. I don't propose to have anything to do with Mr. McLaughlin's talk with the inhabitants.

Q. Do you admit that, if Mr. McLaughlin tells the truth, when he says that he went from house to house and made inquiries of each fisherman, he has better means of information than you?—A. I won't admit that. I know Mr. McLaughlin well, and I won't admit it.

Q. Do you intend the Commission to understand that Mr. McLaughlin is a man not to be relied on?—A. I don't wish to state anything of that kind. I have made my statement, Mr. McLaughlin has made his, and the Commission may choose between the two.

Q. You have sworn that you believe him to be a credible man?—A. Yes; as we speak of men, I have nothing to say against Mr. McLaughlin. He has lived in Grand Manan; I know him; and he has lived on Gannet Rock for a long time.

Q. Would his living on Gannet Rock alter his moral character?—A. Not a particle, but it deprives him of seeing the extent of the fishing at Grand Manan.

Q. That may be. Does it deprive him of the opportunity of going round and asking the different people what they caught?—A. No; he can go round.

Q. Do you believe the inhabitants would misinform him by telling

him that they caught more than they did, for the purpose of increasing their taxes?—A. I could not answer the question; the inhabitants can answer it; I refuse to answer it.

Q. You say that, although Mr. McLaughlin had those means of information, you still put your judgment against his?—A. I do.

Q. Is there not as much fish taken around the island of Campobello and Deer Island, with its surrounding islands, the parish of West Isles, as is taken round Grand Manan?—A. I should think that Grand Manan exceeds them both in smoked herring, and exceeds them largely in hake this year; but Deer Island exceeds Campobello in codfish and frozen herring. It would be quite a calculation to figure it up.

Q. Is there as much fish taken round the two islands Campobello and Deer Island, and the parish of West Isles, as there is round Grand Manan?—A. Yes, and more.

Q. How often are you in the habit of visiting the mainland from Letite to Lepreau and to St. Andrew's?—A. I go to St. Andrew's once in a while. There is very little fishing there. There is more law than fishing.

Q. It is the county town?—A. Yes.

Q. Are you in the habit of visiting Letite often?—A. No, I am not.

Q. Or St. George or Penfield?—A. No.

Q. Nor the parish of Lepreau?—A. No.

Q. Nor Back Bay?—A. No.

Q. Nor Mace's Bay?—A. No, and there are very few fish caught there.

Q. How long is it since you have been to any of those places?—A. Some I never was at.

Q. Take St. George, which is a considerable town, how long is it since you were there?—A. I could not tell you the number of years; it is a long time since. There is no fishing there.

Q. How long is it since you have been there?—A. A good many years.

Q. How long is it since you have been in any part of the parish of Penfield?—A. A good many years.

Q. And the parish of Lepreau?—A. I don't know that I was ever there but once or twice in my life.

Q. Do you know Mr. James McLean?—A. Yes; I see him very often, and his brother, who lives at Eastport, who is junior partner in the firm of A. & J. McLean.

Q. Is Mr. James McLean a respectable and reliable man?—A. As far as I know him.

Q. He is not a man who would willfully make a misstatement under oath?—A. I could not tell you about that. Mr. McLean speaks for himself and I speak for myself.

Q. As far as you know, is he a man who you believe would not willfully make a misstatement under oath?—A. I could not answer the question.

Q. Have you no belief?—A. I assail no man's character; I did not come here to do that. I came here to give a fair, candid opinion in regard to this business, and I don't propose to be brought in conflict with any other man or injure any other man. If that is the purpose for which I was brought here I don't wish to say more.

Q. You were not brought here to ventilate and air your views, but for the purpose of answering such questions as might be put to you by the American and British counsel.—A. I was not brought here to tell whether Mr. James McLean was a reliable or unreliable man, I presume.

Q. You were asked this question: Is Mr. James McLean a respectable

man, in your judgment?—A. I told you I thought he was, as far as I know.

Q. You refuse to answer whether you believe he would tell a lie under oath?—A. I refuse to answer the question.

Q. Do you believe he would not tell a lie under oath?—A. That question I do not answer.

Q. Did you ever hear of his having been charged with telling a lie under oath?—A. I do not answer that question.

Q. Do you refuse to answer the question, whether you ever heard that he had been charged with telling a lie under oath?—A. Not unless the Commission enforces an answer. I don't wish to go into Mr. McLean's character.

Q. I insist on an answer to the question, whether you ever heard of Mr. McLean being charged with telling a falsehood under oath.—A. I don't know he was ever under oath.

Q. Did you ever hear any person say that he had made a misstatement under oath?—A. I don't know that I ever did.

Q. You don't remember having ever heard it said that Mr. McLean had made a misstatement under oath?—A. Fishermen say that he is a confounded story-teller; but you cannot always believe what they say. They say he lies to them. I don't know.

Q. Do you mean that he lied under oath?—A. I did not see him under oath. I don't know or wish to say anything in regard to that.

Q. You have said that the fishermen who take the fish out of the water do not make much money?—A. I made that statement; that of the men who caught fish with hook and line I never knew one to get rich.

Q. They have to deal with the fish merchants doing the same kind of business you are doing. I suppose the fish merchants get the profits?—A. I don't know. I know a great many fish merchants who do not get rich.

Q. Did you ever know any who did?—A. I know that I carried it on a long time and did not get rich.

Q. Did you ever know any who did?—A. In our vicinity? Yes, in connection with other business. We have a number of firms who are rich.

Q. You never have visited the main land, except an incidental trip to St. Andrews, because you say you were never in Pennfield, never at Letite, and never in Lepreau?—A. I never was in Lepreau more than once or twice in my life.

Q. Have you been there within the last ten years?—A. I have not.

Q. And yet, although you have never been on the main land, excepting an incidental visit to St. Andrews, you undertake to put your opinion of the catch on the main land against the opinion of a man like Mr. McLaughlin, whose special business it is to attend to the fishing off that coast?—A. I do.

Q. Do you know Mr. James Lord, of Deer Island?—A. Very well, indeed. I had a long conversation with him before he came down here. Mr. James Lord has been buying hake sounds for me for six years.

Q. He is a respectable man?—A. I think so.

Q. You do not think he would make a willful misstatement under oath?—A. I don't think he would. All men are liable to mistakes and to errors in judgment.

Q. You admit you are liable to mistakes?—A. It may be so. You may find men who won't agree with me.

Q. You won't admit you make mistakes?—A. I have given you my opinion to the best of my judgment, and you have got it.

Q. Although you swear that all men are liable to make mistakes, you swear you are not?—A. I don't understand it in that way.

Q. You have stated there were Dominion men who own shares in American vessels running to Eastport and elsewhere. Will you tell me who they are?—A. I did not say so.

Q. You said American vessels owned by Dominion men?—A. I did, and can give you their names.

Q. Give them?—A. There is the Sea Spray, which is chartered this year by a man named Powers, of Deer Isle, Maine, I think, and he is seining mackerel on the coast of Maine. Then there is the schooner Lookout.

Q. They are American vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. What do you mean by chartered? There is a difference between owning and chartering?—A. A great deal of difference.

Q. I asked you who the Dominion owners were?—A. The Dominion owners are the Holmeses.

Q. Where do they live?—A. In Deer Island some of them, and some at Beaver Harbor. There is the Charlotte Augusta, the captain of which is William Holmes. She is owned by the family of Holmes who live at Fairhaven; and the Lookout is owned by the same family.

Q. Are they British subjects?—A. Yes.

Q. Living at Deer Island?—A. Yes.

Q. And not naturalized in the United States?—A. No, they are not naturalized.

Q. They are owned by them, and American registered?—A. No, I did not say that.

Q. The vessels are run in another name; in whose name do these vessels run?—A. I could not tell you.

Q. How then do you know the vessels have Dominion owners?—A. I know it by hearing the parties themselves say so, and by talking with some of the principal owners of the vessels.

Q. Did you never inquire in whose name they were running?—A. I never went to the custom-house to see in whose name they were registered.

Q. You never asked?—A. No.

Q. Are they American registered?—A. They are American vessels running under American registry.

Q. Of course, you are aware that no British subject can own an American vessel, or any share in an American vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. Round Deer Island and Campobello I think the fish are caught by boat fishermen?—A. Not altogether.

Q. There is a great quantity caught by them?—A. Deer Island is getting a great many small vessels.

Q. Fishing round their own island?—A. They don't fish there. There is very little fishing round Deer Island.

Q. I am speaking of the fishing round Deer Island or West Isles?—A. The fishing at Deer Island and West Isles for frozen herring is followed in boats inshore, but the fishing is mostly done in vessels. There are a few boats there; some 22 feet boats.

Q. Round Deer Island, West Isles, and Campobello the fishing is in British waters, and within three miles of the land?—A. Yes, and at Grand Manan. Hake is caught out toward the Wolves outside of three miles.

Q. You know Quoddy River?—A. Yes.

Q. Where does it run ? It is a river running into the bay ?—A. Some call it Quoddy River ; others call it Passamaquoddy Bay ; there are different names for it.

Q. Passamaquoddy Bay is above.—A. Some people call it St. Andrew's Bay ; it is always called St. Andrew's by the people with us. In fact, there is no river by the name of Quoddy River. I know of no river by the name of Quoddy River.

Q. You have lived at Eastport all the time you have stated, and you never heard of a salt-water current in the neighborhood of Deer Island and Campobello bearing the name of Quoddy River ?—A. I did not say so. A salt-water current and a river are two different things. A river is supposed to be fresh water, though salt water may flow into it.

Q. Is there not a salt-water current there commonly known as Quoddy River ?—A. Not by our people.

Q. Do you know the stream called Quoddy River ?—A. I know of no stream called Quoddy River. I know where Quoddy is, and the entrance to Quoddy Harbor.

Q. I understand you that, though living so long at Eastport, in close proximity to West Isles and Campobello, you never heard of the sea-current called Quoddy River ?—A. I don't know it by that name.

Q. What name do you know it by ?—A. On the way to Eastport, between Cherry Island and Campobello, and, in fact, all around Eastport on both sides of it, the currents are very swift. There is a shallow place we call the Ledges, which lies below Cherry Island, rather toward Eastport, where the tides of St. Andrew's Bay and Cobscook Bay, of which Eastport forms the end, meet. If you ask fishermen where they are going, they always say that they are going off to the Ledges. They will not tell you they are going to fish in Quoddy River. It is all Quoddy, and it is all this bay ; but this particular point you are trying to come at, this shoal piece of ground that lies right on the point as the two swift currents come down by Moose Island, on which Eastport is built, we call the Ledges altogether.

Q. Will you tell me how you know those particular portions you have described are what I mean by Quoddy River ?—A. I don't know anything else you can mean.

Q. For you never heard of Quoddy River ?—A. I give you the boundaries of what I call Quoddy.

Q. You said you never heard of Quoddy River ?—A. I may have heard of it, but our fishermen do not call it so.

Q. Did you not tell me you never heard of Quoddy River ?—A. You asked me if I knew of a swift salt-water current called Quoddy River, and I told you I did not.

Q. I asked you if you had heard of Quoddy River, and you told me you never had.—A. I don't remember what answer I made to that.

Q. I ask you now, have you ever heard in your lifetime of what is called Quoddy River ?—A. I may by some people, but as a general thing we don't call it that.

Q. Have you ever heard of it ?—A. I think it is likely I have.

Q. Are you sure you have ?—A. I think it is likely I have.

Q. Are you sure you have ?—A. I could not name any man who said it.

Q. Have you heard of it ?—A. Let it go that I have.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. You have been asked whether you undertake to contradict certain testimony given by Mr. McLaughlin ; I want to call your attention to some questions and answers to show whether you mean to contradict

him, or whether it is not the fact that you are in agreement with him. Mr. McLaughlin says :

Q. Do you make your return for the whole year?—A. Yes; from the 1st January to the 31st December.

Q. You do not make it up for the fiscal year?—A. No; I am ordered to make it up to the 31st December: the return states itself that it is so made up. The amount in my estimate, as I made it up from inquiry last year, is \$383,891, but that is far under the real catch.

Q. You say that is far under the actual value of the catch; how do you account for its being under the amount?—A. Well, the fishermen are reluctant to give an account of what they make, on account of the taxation. We have a free-school law now, and are taxed very heavily for it.

Q. It happens that you are an assessor of taxes?—A. I am at times, and I am a county councilor, and have been a census enumerator.

Q. And they do not like to give this information to you; you are the last person to whom they want to give it?—A. Well, I tell them that the marine department never lets such information go out of its possession. They tell me there is no need of doing so; that I have it all in my hands. They say it is too thin.

Q. Then you believe the amount you have given is an underestimate?—A. I know it must be over half a million dollars; that is, our old \$500,000.

Q. That is within the mark for your own island?—A. Yes.

Q. Of the British catch?—A. Yes; our own Grand Manan people; because sometimes they come over from Campobello and other places, but I have nothing to do with that.

Q. Well, now, is the American catch larger or smaller?—A. I think it is larger.

Q. Have you any doubt?—A. No; because their appliances are so much better than ours, and I think their men outnumber ours.

In regard to the last portion of the answer, what is your judgment as to the proportion of the American catch to the British catch?—A. The American catch at Grand Manan is very small. I don't think I was called upon to make an estimate of the amount. The American catch is very small indeed.

Q. What is the relation of the British to the American catch at Grand Manan?—A. I have denied emphatically that there was any American catch to amount to anything taken within three miles of the shore. The American catch at Grand Manan is taken almost entirely outside of the three miles.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. I understood you to swear that within three miles round Grand Manan there was no American catch whatever?—A. I did not say so. I said very trifling.

Q. What do you call very trifling?—A. I think the catch inside of the three-mile limit at Grand Manan by American boats is very trifling.

Q. Or schooners?—A. There is not any American schooner fishing within three miles. You cannot mention and you cannot prove one. I do not believe but that \$2,000 would buy all that is caught by American boats inside of the three-mile limit.

Q. Then Mr. McLaughlin's statement that the Americans caught \$500,000 worth of fish there is and must be willfully false?—A. Inside of three miles—yes, or he was mistaken.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. Mr. McLaughlin's conversations as to the British catch could give him no information as to what was the American catch?—A. Not the slightest. Mr. McLaughlin must have reckoned the value of all the cargoes of frozen herring taken off the island and caught by Dominion subjects, or he must have reckoned the fish caught by American vessels at Grand Manan 15 miles out, or at the Rippings 8 or 10 miles out to sea. He has made a gross mistake some way, but how I don't know. He may be able to account for it; I cannot.

No. 55.

JOSEPH LAKEMAN, fisherman, of Grand Manan Island, was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot :

Question. Where were you born ?—Answer. In Lubec, State of Maine.

Q. Where are you now living ?—A. On Grand Manan Island.

Q. Are you now a British subject ?—A. No.

Q. When did you move from Maine to Grand Manan ?—A. In 1845.

Q. Have you lived at Grand Manan since ?—A. Yes.

Q. What has been your occupation at Grand Manan ?—A. I began there in the green fish trade as a merchant, and I added to that weir and vessel fishing.

Q. And are you now weir and vessel fishing ?—A. I am not now vessel fishing, but I am weir fishing. I make that a specialty.

Q. What fish are caught at and in the neighborhood of Grand Manan ?—A. Herring principally, and also cod, pollock, and hake.

Q. What are you especially engaged in ?—A. The herring fishery.

Q. Smoked or frozen ?—A. Smoked mostly. We freeze some few, but not many.

Q. Have you any idea as to the number of boxes of herring put up on the average annually at Grand Manan in connection with the smoked herring fishery ?—A. From 300,000 to 500,000 boxes are put up. The number depends upon the run of the fishing about the island.

Q. Is the smoked-herring fishery of Grand Manan almost entirely a weir fishery ?—A. Yes; about all of it is so. Very few net herring are smoked.

Q. Who prosecutes the herring fishery, as a rule? Is it a native fishery, or is it participated in by people outside—by Americans ?—A. I cannot now call to mind any person, American born, who is engaged in the business at the present time, except Mr. Small, who is engaged in it to a very limited extent—he is a native-born American, and has been naturalized—and myself.

Q. As far as the herring fishery goes, it is entirely a Grand Manan fishery, carried on by the native population ?—A. Yes, generally speaking this is the case.

Q. Where are the smoked herring sent ?—A. Mostly to the American market.

Q. In American or Grand Manan vessels ?—A. Within the last few years, since the new treaty came into operation, and Canadian fish were allowed to enter the American market free of duty, they have bought coasting-vessels.

Q. Who have done so ?—A. Our people.

Q. The Grand Manan people ?—A. Yes; they are owned at our island, and have been bought on the American side. American vessels have been converted into English vessels, and they are run to New York and Boston, taking there the fish of the island and smoked herring principally.

Q. Do you know anything about the frozen-herring business ?—A. Yes.

Q. How is it conducted, and what sort of a business is it ?—A. The herring which are frozen are caught principally by our people on the island, and sold to the American vessels, which come there for them.

Q. Do you know any appreciable proportion of American vessels which come there, catch herring, and freeze them ?—A. I do not.

Q. What other fisheries besides the herring fishery are carried on at and around Manan Island ?—A. The cod, pollock, and hake fisheries.

Q. Are they inshore or off-shore fisheries?—A. The hake, until within a few years back, has been considered altogether an inshore fishery, but since the introduction of trawling it has extended into deep water and off shore. They go out now earlier in the season than they used to do to fish for hake.

Q. It has become an off-shore fishery?—A. Yes; it is carried on beyond the 3-mile limit.

Q. How about the haddock fishery?—A. We do not fish especially for haddock; those we take are caught promiscuously while we are catching other fish.

Q. Can you state, from your experience since 1845, what proportion of all the fisheries there, within 3 miles of the shore, is carried on by American vessels or boats?—A. When I went to Grand Manan Island, in 1845, and for say 10 years subsequently, more was done by American vessels there than now, or than has been the case for the last 10 years. There used to be quite a fleet of small vessels which came there from Hancock County, in Maine, but within the past 10 or 12 years this fleet has about all dropped off, with the exception of one or two vessels, and gone into another kind of fishing—Grand Bank fishing. They have built larger vessels, and consequently they have dropped our island fisheries.

Q. What is your estimate as to the annual value of the whole Grand Manan fishery, taking it all in all?—A. I should say that it would not exceed \$50,000 on the average, with regard to the fisheries carried on within the 3-mile limit. Taking into consideration the whole fishery, including the frozen-herring business, I could not with propriety put its value at over \$60,000 at the most. I could not go beyond that, and I should say that \$50,000 is nearer the mark; and I am putting the figure at the outside limit for the best years and the highest prices.

Q. You include everything caught about Grand Manan Island?—A. Yes; with the oil, sounds, and everything that is realized out of the fishery.

Q. What number of boxes of smoked herring do you imagine is sent from Grand Manan to the American market?—A. I should judge that at least three-quarters of our catch is so sent, and this product amounts to from 300,000 to 500,000 boxes a year.

Q. What are they worth a box?—A. This year they rule low, but they have ruled as high as 45 cents a box, and from that down to 10 or 15 cents. I have sold the catch of the season at Eastport for 45 cents a box.

Q. How many would be three-quarters of this catch?—A. Call the average catch about 400,000 boxes, and then on the average 300,000 would be sent annually to the American market.

Q. What do you think they are worth?—A. I should think that a fair average, one year with another, would be 20 cents a box, or between 20 and 15 cents.

Q. What would 300,000 boxes then be worth at 20 cents a box?—A. \$60,000.

Q. What do you think is the value of the frozen-herring fishery, including bait and food and everything else?—A. I should suppose that the average quantity sent to the American market would be from 10 to 12 cargoes a year.

Q. What are they worth a cargo?—A. About \$1,000, on the average

Q. That would make \$12,000 for frozen-herring?—A. Yes; from \$10,000 to \$12,000.

Q. What are the cod, hake, and pollock fisheries at Grand Manan

worth?—A. I should say that 10,000 quintals would be a fair average annual catch for the hake fishery.

Q. What is a quintal worth?—A. I should say that the average price is about \$1.25 a quintal.

Q. That would make \$12,500 as the annual value of this fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the haddock fishery worth?—A. As a general thing haddock and hake go together.

Q. What is the cod-fishery worth?—A. I should say that on the average 12,000 and probably 13,000 quintals would be a fair average annual catch for this fishery at Grand Manan.

Q. What is a quintal of cod worth?—A. From \$3.50 to \$3.75 on the average, for large and small.

Q. What would 13,000 quintals then be worth?—A. \$48,750.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Do you make this up at the rate of \$3.75 or \$3.50?—A. I have placed the rate at \$3.75.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. How much do these several totals make?—A. \$133,450.

Q. Think a little and tell us what you meant by telling us a few minutes ago that in your opinion the value of the annual catch of the fisheries of Grand Manan Island only amounted to \$50,000, or at the most to \$60,000?—A. \$500,000 I meant. Did I say \$50,000? If I did, that was a slip of the tongue—and if I said \$60,000 I meant \$600,000.

Q. This is the annual proceeds of the Grand Manan fisheries?—A. No; the value of the hake sounds is yet to be considered.

Q. But as far as you have gone that is the case?—A. I want to add the value of 100,000 boxes of herring, which at 20 cents a box are worth \$20,000, and the total figure is then \$153,450, if I have made no mistake. This is the value of the average annual catch of smoked herring, frozen herring, hake, and cod at Grand Manan.

Q. You think that the catch of fish at Grand Manan, in which you agree with Mr. McLaughlin, is worth about \$500,000?—A. I do not think that it is \$500,000 a year actually; but I think that I can safely put it down at \$500,000.

Q. What portion of the fishery there carried on within the 3-mile limit is conducted by Americans in American vessels. What part of this \$500,000 is represented by American capital?—A. My estimate is for fish taken by people residing on Grand Manan Island, and who are considered to be citizens.

Q. Do any other people come there and fish?—A. Yes; some, but not many.

Q. How many American boats and vessels come within the 3-mile limit, off Grand Manan Island, to fish, and what is the value of their catch?—A. I do not know of an American vessel that fishes there within the 3-mile limit, that is, with lines. It may be, however, that some vessels that came there line-fishing last season set nets in there for the purpose of getting bait. I think it is quite likely that some of them have done so; I know that our weir fishermen supply most of the vessels with bait. We sell them bait out of our weirs; we open an account with them when they come there.

Q. Your experience, in this regard, dates back to 1845, and you have been weir-fishing all this time?—A. Yes, principally.

Q. And you know something about the Grand Manan fisheries?—A. Yes.

Q. Then state what portion of the fishery within the 3-mile limit there is carried on by Americans; give the value of the whole fishery, and say what proportion of the \$500,000 is taken by Americans.—A. No part of that estimate, \$500,000, is caught by Americans. This relates to what has been taken by our people on Grand Manan; it covers the whole ground.

Q. And you say that the Americans do not carry on any fishery there within 3 miles of the shore?—A. Yes; but some American vessels fish off on the Banks. The value of the fish of all kinds taken annually within the limits off Grand Manan is \$500,000; but no fish are taken there, to my knowledge, by American fishermen, in boats or vessels.

Q. What is the population of Grand Manan?—A. Mr. Lorimer, in his history of Grand Manan, issued last year, gives it at about 2,400 or 2,500.

Q. Do you know much of the opposite side of the coast—Letite and Lepreau, St. Andrew's and Deer Island, &c.?—A. No, not a great deal, to my personal knowledge.

Q. Are you not obliged to know something about the fishery on that coast, in connection with the management of your own business?—A. We learn what they are doing over there, and we secure reports in this regard. For instance, if herring are caught there we naturally make inquiries concerning their quality and quantity and such matters, and as to how many are being put up, because we are interested in that branch of the business; but if I hear about the line fishing carried on there, I am not so immediately interested in that department, and I do not care so much about it.

Q. How does the herring fishery on that coast compare with the herring fishery of Grand Manan Island?—A. Their line-fishing is more extensive than ours, but their smoked-herring business is not so extensive as ours; they do not smoke as many herring as we do—at least I understand not, but I do not know that this is the case from my own personal knowledge. They, however, make line and net fishing more of a specialty than do our island people, and they probably in winter net more herring for what is called the frozen-herring business.

Q. Is the fishery carried on there of greater or less value than the Grand Manan fishery?—A. I do not think that there is a great deal of difference between the two. At least, I should not think so. The extent of our smoked-herring business would very nearly offset what they do more than our vessels in other branches, and I would not suppose there would be any very great material difference between these two fisheries.

Q. From your experience what do you suppose is the value of the whole fisheries carried on from Grand Manan Island up to and along the whole of Charlotte County?—A. I would not like to estimate it at more than \$2,000,000.

Q. That is for the whole fishery as mentioned?—A. Yes, I should say it was overestimated at \$2,000,000. I should think that one and three-quarter millions of dollars would be the full extent of its value.

Q. On that shore or up around Grand Manan do you believe it possible from anything you have seen that there is an American fishery carried on there, and an American catch taken there, independent altogether of the people of Grand Manan, and of the inhabitants of the opposite from Letite of equal value with the British catch?—A. No.

Q. Or that if the value of the British catch there is a million, the value of the American catch there is also a million, and perhaps more?—A. I

am confident that nothing of the kind is the case. I give this as my honest opinion.

Q. You say you have been dealing in the smoked-herring business for a long time. Would that business stand an additional tax of 5 cents in gold per box, which is the amount of the old duty?—A. No, it could not, this year in particular.

Q. Why?—A. We are only getting this year, in the American market, 15 cents a box for our best quality of herring, after they are shipped.

Q. Would not the customer have to pay the duty?—A. I think not.

Q. Why not?—A. My experience is to the contrary. I cannot so understand it.

Q. Explain why you think so?—A. I will tell you how the matter has worked in my experience. I have shipped direct in my own vessel from Grand Manan to Boston smoked herring with other kinds of fish when there was an average duty of 5 cents in gold a box on smoked herring, and I have sold those herring alongside of a man from Lubec who was also selling herring. Mine were equally as good, or if not better than his, and the reputation of Grand Manan herring stands higher than that of Quoddy herring, as is known by everybody who knows anything about it, because we have a better quality of fish. I have sold my herring in the Boston market alongside of Lubec herring, and for the same price which the latter obtained, while I also paid 5 cents a box in gold duty at the Boston custom-house. I once took a cargo of about 7,000 boxes there in the schooner Belle, and I left \$350 in gold at the Boston custom-house, and if the consumer paid the duty I paid it also; and so I came home minus \$350 in gold, which, if no duty had been imposed on Canadian fish, I would have had in my pocket.

Q. If the captain from Lubec had gone there with the same cargo, obtaining the same price, he would have come away with these \$350 in his pocket?—A. Certainly he would; that is clear.

Q. You thus lost \$350?—A. I did really lose it.

Q. In other words, without reference to duty you had in the American market to take the price which the American fisherman got there?—A. I had to sell my fish at the same price which he got; the dealer could pay me no more than he paid him, for my herring were no better than his, and he could not afford to pay me any more for them, as he could get what he wanted from American fishermen; so I was obliged to sell at the same price.

Q. You do not believe that the herring fishery could stand the addition mentioned?—A. It could not. It really could not. We were previously driven out of the business of shipping fish to the Boston market—this is the truth of it—until the renewal of reciprocity.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. Did you ever reflect as to whether the imposition of a 5 cents duty on your fish did not raise by so much the price of the fish, so that you got to that extent a higher price for your fish?—A. I think this is not the case. It could not do so. The \$350 were taken out of my pocket in this way: they had a sufficient quantity of fish in the American market, which was kept supplied with all that was required at a certain price.

Q. What price did you get in that particular instance?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Suppose that fish had been in such demand in the market that you got 20 cents more for them than you actually did receive, and that the Lubec man also obtained 20 cents more; do you think that you would have been paying the duty?—A. Certainly I would.

Q. The American fishermen want the duty back on fish, I suppose?—
A. I do not know about that, I am sure; but they naturally would wish to have it back again, I suppose, in order to exclude our fish from their market.

Q. I suppose that the consumer got his fish cheaper, owing to the removal of the duty and the admission of your fish into the American market?—A. The consumer would then get his fish cheaper—the more fish that are put on the market the cheaper the consumer gets them.

Q. Do you think that the effect of the duty would be to keep you out altogether?—A. It would exclude us.

Q. In that particular case did you lose money?—A. O, I certainly did; that is, I lost money in this way: if my fish were as good—and they were so, of course—as those of my neighbor at Lubec, and if he sold his fish at 30 cents a box, and paid no duty, while I sold mine at 30 cents a box and paid 5 cents gold duty per box, I look upon it in this light, that I lost 5 cents in gold per box, which I would not have lost if I had operated on the American side. Besides there was quite a premium on gold at the time, and it cost me more to get my fish to the American market than it did the American to whom I refer.

Q. We will grant, for the sake of argument, that you did lose.—A. I understand that I did lose money, certainly.

Q. Do you mean that you really lost money?—A. I lost it in the sense I have mentioned.

Q. And otherwise, did you make money?—A. I certainly have made money in the smoked-herring business.

Q. But did you lose money on that particular transaction?—A. O, I really did make money on that transaction; that is clear; that is to say I made over and above a living, and I call that making money; but I would have made more money if it had not been for the duty.

Q. Would you have made any more with the duty off, if the price of herring then fell 5 cents per box all round in the American market?—A. Certainly I would not; that is clear.

Q. The duty had rather the effect of putting money into the pocket of the Lubec fishermen than of taking it out of yours?—A. I think not; I do not see it in that light.

Q. On that particular transaction, at any rate, you made money?—A. I got over and above a living.

Q. Why, then, did you say that you would be driven out of the American market?—A. I say this would be the case if a prohibitory duty were put on.

Q. Of course; but do you say that the imposition of a five cents duty would do so?—A. At the present time, with present prices of fish, that would do it; we could not then operate in the American market, and we could not make a living.

Q. Do you not think that the imposition of a five cents duty would raise the price five cents more in the American market?—A. No.

Q. Why not?—A. I do not see any reason why that should be the case, because our fish are not wanted in the American market. Our fish go into that market as a surplus.

Q. Then the result of this treaty is that the Americans get their fish a great deal cheaper than was the case before?—A. There are times when smoked herring are very plentiful on the American side, and then herring run low in price.

Q. Is not the result of the treaty, which admits your fish into the American market on equal terms with the American fish, to make the price of fish lower in that market?—A. It has that tendency evidently.

Q. Therefore the consumer gets his fish for less money?—A. Evidently he does. When herring are abundant the price is lower.

Q. It further follows that although a certain class of fishermen may lose something by this free admission of British fish into the American market, the American public gain by it?—A. By getting their fish at a low price? Of course it makes the price of fish lower in that market. That is clear.

Q. Then the consumer gets the fish cheaper?—A. He evidently does; the larger the quantity that is put on the market the less the price will be.

Q. You state that the annual value of the Grand Manan fisheries is from \$500,000 to \$600,000, but according to the figures which you gave Mr. Trescott such annual value amounted in all to only \$153,000; will you explain how you account for the difference?—A. That is for the body of the fish, apart from the value of the oil and sounds.

Q. What is the value of the sounds?—A. It would take some time to figure that up.

Q. Would it amount to \$50,000?—A. No.

Q. Would anything else be worth \$50,000? You see that all these figures do not make \$200,000; now where do you get your \$500,000 or \$600,000?—A. I said I did not believe that it would exceed that, and I do not think that it will come up to that amount.

Q. Is not \$500,000 and \$600,000 a mere random guess on your part?—A. I have no figures by which I know that it is correct.

Q. The figures you have mentioned only bring such value up to \$153,000, leaving a difference of about \$450,000 between that and \$600,000; the fact is that you have not made any accurate calculation about this at all?—A. I have not; no.

Q. Do you know Walter McLaughlin, of Grand Manan Island?—A. Yes.

Q. He is a respectable man, is he not?—A. Yes; he has the reputation of it.

Q. And he is a truthful man?—A. Yes.

Q. You know that his business as fishery warden is to find out actually what the catch is, and I suppose that you will not put your judgment, in this respect, against his?—A. Well, that would depend on circumstances.

Q. Would you put your judgment as to the catch of Grand Manan against his, when it is his business to find out what it really is?—A. No; I do not think that I would.

Q. Do you know Mr. Lord, of Deer Island?—A. I do not, save from reputation.

Q. He has the reputation of being a straightforward man, has he not?—A. I never heard anything to the contrary.

Q. Do you know James McLean, of Black Bay?—A. Yes; I am well acquainted with him.

Q. He is a very respectable man?—A. He is.

Q. And a truthful man, as far as you are aware?—A. He is; yes.

Q. As to the main-shore fisheries, of course you would not put your opinion against that of Mr. McLean?—A. No; not with respect to some things.

Q. Surely you would not put your opinion as to the mainland fisheries against that of a man engaged in them, and who lives there?—A. When I speak from personal knowledge of anything, and if in this Mr. McLean's opinion differed from mine, I would give Mr. McLean credit for being truthful, and for not desiring to misrepresent the matter; but,

at the same time, I would not submit to his judgment in such regard as being better than and superior to my own.

Q. No doubt; but with respect to matters about which you have no personal knowledge you would not put your judgment, founded on mere hearsay, against that of Mr. McLean?—A. Certainly not.

No. 56.

SYLVANUS SMITH, outfitter and vessel-owner, Gloucester, Mass., was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn, and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You have always lived in Gloucester, I believe?—Answer. I formerly resided in Lockport, the adjoining town.

Q. How old are you?—A. I am 48.

Q. You began life as a fisherman?—A. Yes; I was very young when I first went fishing.

Q. When did you first come to the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. In 1848.

Q. Did you then come as sharesman?—A. Yes.

Q. In what vessel?—A. The schooner Juniatta.

Q. How long was your trip and how many barrels did you take?—A. We were 3 months on the voyage, and we took 300 barrels, to the best of my recollection. I have no record of that trip.

Q. When did you next go to the gulf fishing?—A. In 1851.

Q. In what schooner?—A. The Wave.

Q. As sharesman?—A. Yes.

Q. How long were you on the trip?—A. Two and a half months.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. 280 barrels.

Q. Did you go fishing to the gulf in 1852, and, if so, in what capacity?—A. I did; I went as master.

Q. In what vessel?—A. The R. C. Parsons.

Q. What was her tonnage?—A. About 80 tons, carpenters' measurement.

Q. How many men were on board of her?—A. About 12, I think.

Q. During how many years were you fishing successively in the R. C. Parsons?—A. Four.

Q. In what vessel did you next go?—A. The E. C. Smith.

Q. What was her tonnage?—A. About 105 or 110, I think.

Q. How many men were on board of her?—A. 17.

Q. During how many years were you in her?—A. 5, I think.

Q. In what schooner did you next go?—A. The Kit Carson.

Q. What was the number of men on board?—A. 19.

Q. What was her tonnage?—A. 145, or thereabouts.

Q. How many years were you on her?—A. 4, I think.

Q. Which was the last year when you were in the Gulf of St. Lawrence as a fisherman?—A. 1864.

Q. In preparing yourself to give testimony here, have you looked at your books to ascertain the catches that were made on the different vessels in which you were?—A. Yes; I have carefully examined my books and found these different catches.

Q. Have you the catches of all these years?—A. Yes, one excepted; and I have the stock of that year, but not the number of barrels which were then taken.

Q. You were 13 years in succession as skipper in the Gulf of St. Law-

rence fishing for mackerel, and the last year you were there for that purpose was in 1864?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you prepared a statement giving the results of your fishing those years?—A. I have.

Q. Is this a copy of it?—A. It is.

Q. And that is correct?—A. It is.

Q. What was your share as sharesman on the Juniatta, in 1848?—A. It was \$64; it might have been some few cents over.

Q. Where were your fish chiefly taken that year?—A. We then fished on Banks Orphan and Bradley, and what we call the Pigeon Hill ground, which lies off the west shore of New Brunswick, between North Cape and Point Miscou.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. How long were you on that trip?—A. Three months.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. How long were you on the trip which you made into the gulf in the Wave in 1851?—A. Two and a half months.

Q. What was your catch?—A. 280 barrels.

Q. What was your share?—A. \$88.69.

Q. Where did you fish that year?—A. On Banks Orphan and Bradley and some at the Magdalen Islands. We, however, caught the most of them on Bank Bradley.

Q. Give the catches for the various years when you were skipper, with the names of the schooners?—A. In 1852 I came into the bay in the R. C. Parsons; was 2 months on the voyage, and caught 100 barrels. In 1853 I was 3½ months on the voyage, and took 120 barrels. In 1854 I made two trips, and took 180 barrels on the one and 120 barrels on the other; was about 2 months on each voyage. In 1855 I made 2 trips, and was gone about 4½ months, but I have no account of the number of barrels which we caught that year; we stocked, however, \$2,967.56 as the result.

Q. The year previously, when you took 300 barrels, what did your stock amount to?—A. The two stocks, as taken from my books, amounted to \$2,937.56.

Q. What was the average price of mackerel that year?—A. \$9.90.

Q. For the following year, for which you could not find the number of barrels caught though you have given the stock for that year accurately, as you do not know the number of barrels, you do not know what was the average price that year?—A. No.

Q. Will you tell the Commission what was your fishing ground during the years when you were in the R. C. Parsons?—A. Well, I fished on the Pigeon Hill ground and on Banks Orphan and Bradley most of the years that I was on that vessel, and I fished some in October on the Cape Breton shore.

Q. How far from the land did you fish off the Pigeon Hills?—A. Some 18 or 20 miles, I think, and along there.

Q. You have fished off the Cape Breton shore while you were in the R. C. Parsons?—A. Yes.

Q. I want you particularly to describe where you fished off that shore, and how near the land you did so, making your statement in as much detail as possible.—A. Well, the first year in which the R. C. Parsons came down there, we left home along about the middle of September, and we fished for a portion of the year at the Magdalen Islands, and towards the last of the trip in October we fished some around Margaree Island and Mabou.

Q. How near to the shore did you fish off Cape Breton?—A. Well, we fished sometimes within a mile or $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the shore, and at other times we fished 4 or 5 miles from the shore. There were little banks off there, and we sometimes fished on them, 7 or 8 miles from the shore.

Q. Off where?—A. Off from the shore of Margaree Island.

Q. Have you names for these little banks?—A. No; but we know the soundings there and we often resorted to that place to fish.

Q. If you are able to estimate at all the quantity of mackerel which you caught within 3 miles of the shore off Margaree Island, or anywhere about the Cape Breton coast, I would like to have you tell us all you can about it. We are confining ourselves to the trips made on the R. C. Parsons?—A. I think that the first season we got 100 barrels, and I think that one-half of that trifle was caught within the 3-mile limit, around Margaree, in what we call Broad Cove.

Q. Now take your second year.—A. In 1853 we only made one trip and we fished up around the Banks. I think we went home earlier than usual that year. We caught some mackerel on that side, but I do not recollect what quantity. We did not, however, get many that year on that shore.

Q. What portion of these 120 barrels, in your judgment, was taken within 3 miles of the shore that year?—A. We might have caught a dozen barrels, or about that quantity, but I could not state it precisely now.

Q. The following year, in the R. C. Parsons, you made two trips and got 300 hundred barrels; where did you catch them?—A. Mostly on Orphan Bank and the Pigeon Hill ground, I believe.

Q. How late were you in the bay that year?—A. I think that we went out of it in the latter part of October; but I have not the exact date.

Q. Did you fish at all in 1854 within 3 miles of the shore anywhere that you remember?—A. Well, we might have tried for some fish in the lower part of the bay on the last trip when we were going home.

Q. What do you mean by the lower part of the bay?—A. The part down towards Port Hood. We sometimes fished off East Point. About half way across was a bank on which we fished sometimes. We also fished from that over to the Cape Breton shore. Vessels resorted there to fish.

Q. You have no record of the number of barrels you took the last year you were in the R. C. Parsons, though you have the amount of that year's stock; can you tell where you fished that year?—A. Well, I fished mostly over the same ground as previously; during a part of that year I fished at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Give us the length of the trip and the number of barrels per trip which you caught while you were on the E. C. Smith?—A. We were $5\frac{1}{2}$ months out in 1856, that first year I was in her; we went in early, and we made two trips, which are put down as one in the statement. We caught 600 barrels on the two trips—about 300 barrels each trip.

Q. I see that you have not carried out the stock for that year?—A. I could not find it.

Q. Do you remember where you finished that year?—A. I fished on Bank Orphan and caught some mackerel, about 50 barrels, in the Bay of Chaleurs, on that trip, I think.

Q. How far were you up the Bay of Chaleurs?—A. This was above Port Daniel, off Paspebiac. We caught some fish up there during one or two days.

Q. Within what distance from the shore?—A. We were off in the middle of the bay. I could not give the exact distance.

Q. Do you remember at all the width of the Bay of Chaleurs at that point?—A. No; but I should think that it was some 7 or 8 miles.

Q. Were you ever in the Bay of Chaleurs during any other year?—A. I have been in there for a harbor frequently.

Q. Where?—A. At Shippegan and Port Daniel.

Q. Have you ever fished there, that year excepted?—A. No; that was the only year when I caught any fish there.

Q. Did you at any other time try to fish there?—A. No; I do not know but that we might have done so when in a harbor, but I do not recollect of having tried there; that is the only year when I ever caught any fish in the Bay of Chaleurs to amount to anything.

Q. What was the result of your fishing the second year you were in the E. C. Smith?—A. We then caught 625 barrels; that was in 1857.

Q. How long were you out?—A. 5½ months. We went out in the very first of the season, and we staid the season through. I went away about the 1st of June or the last of May, and came out of the bay in the last part of the season.

Q. In November?—A. Yes.

Q. What was the result of your fishing in 1858?—A. We then caught 550 barrels.

Q. What length of time were you out?—A. During those years when I was exclusively fishing for mackerel we went into the bay in the very first part of the season.

Q. You have the stock for 1858; what was the average price per barrel that year?—A. \$9.44. The stock amounted to \$5,200.

Q. Did you send any fish home that year?—A. I did not.

Q. Did you do so in 1858?—A. Well, I did not ship any home; I did not land any to ship.

Q. You brought the whole of the 550 barrels back with you?—A. One year I shipped some with two of my brothers—100 barrels with one, and 180 barrels, I think, with both. I took them out in the bay, and I do not know but 1858 was that year.

Q. You transshipped them from one schooner to another in the bay?—A. They took them on board there and I took their supplies; that was the first of my shipping mackerel home.

Q. You think that may be the year, but you do not know?—A. I am not certain about it, but I think that is the year.

Q. What did you do in 1859?—A. I caught then 250 barrels.

Q. In what length of time?—A. We were 5 months on that trip.

Q. What did you do in 1860?—A. I was out 4 months and caught 220 barrels.

Q. What did they stock at?—A. \$1,805.08; the average stock was \$8.40.

Q. The next schooner you were in was the Kit Carson; what did you do in her?—A. In 1861, in the Kit Carson, I made a 4½ months' trip. I caught 520 barrels, and the average price was \$4.43; stock, \$2,303.02.

Q. How long were you in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1862?—A. Five months.

Q. What did you catch?—A. Six hundred and four barrels.

Q. Have you a memorandum concerning this trip?—A. I have no memorandum of the precise trip, but I have the number of barrels we then caught, as taken from my pass-book, kept on the wharf; it is what we call the tally-book. I have no memorandum concerning the precise stock for that year.

Q. What did you do in 1863?—A. I then went two trips; was out 5½ months; caught 1,003 barrels; average price, \$9.07; stock, \$9,101.87.

Q. And 1864?—A. I then made one trip; was out for 5½ months; caught 1,126 barrels; average price, \$10.75; stock, \$12,104.82.

Q. Were all the prices which you have given for 1862, 1863, and 1864 American currency prices?—A. Yes.

Q. 1864 was your last year in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Yes, as skipper of a vessel.

Q. And during the two last years you were there you shipped home mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. How?—A. By packet from the Strait of Canso.

Q. What did you pay?—A. \$1 a barrel freight to Gloucester; that was in currency.

Q. In what way did you ship mackerel home in 1864, and what did this cost you?—A. By packet; and I think it cost the same for freight, but I am not sure of that.

Q. During the 13 years you acted as skipper, I believe you caught 6,018 barrels of mackerel, and your average catch per year was 469 barrels?—A. I have not figured that up.

Q. Did anybody ever sail out of Gloucester who was more successful than yourself in catching mackerel?—A. Well, they all said that I got a pretty large share.

Q. Without showing any modesty about it, did anybody catch as many as yourself?—A. I think not.

Q. Was Andrew Leighton as near you as any one?—A. I think that for the number of times I was fishing I got more than he did; but then some years he was longer in the bay than I was, and got as many as I did, if not a few more.

Q. You stocked over 1,100 barrels in 1864?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you do afterwards?—A. I went into the fishing business, and fitted out vessels.

Q. What was the style of the firm in which you first were?—A. Rowe and Smith.

Q. How long were you in it?—A. Three years.

Q. This was in 1865, 1866, and 1867?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the name of your present firm?—A. Smith & Gott. I went into this firm in 1868.

Q. What has been your business in this firm?—A. I was in the same business as previously—the cod and mackerel business. We are fish-buyers and we ship fish to the West.

Q. I have a statement respecting your mackerel business in the firm of Smith & Gott, both on the United States shore and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, but you have not given me a statement of your business during the years when you were in the first firm; why did you not do so?—A. When I came away I had only 2 or 3 days to look over my old books, and I did not have access to the old books of the other firm for the purpose.

Q. You have a statement made up from the books of your present

firm from 1863 to the present time; is this a copy of that statement?—

A. Yes; it is as follows:

Bay-trips from 1868 to 1876, inclusive.				Shore-trips from 1868 to 1876, inclusive.			
Year.	No. of vessels.	No. of barrels of mackerel.	Average price.	Year.	No. of vessels.	No. of barrels of mackerel.	Average price.
1868.....	5	625	\$16 00	1868.....	5	1,961	\$11 87
1869.....	7	1,097	16 00	1869.....	2	1,140	8 75
1870.....	7	1,038	13 00	1870.....	5	1,852	8 61
1871.....	5	1,413	8 00	1871.....	2	1,174	9 70
1872.....	3	789	14 00	1872.....	3	1,494	9 22
1873.....	6	2,291	9 25	1873.....	4	1,889	13 93
1874.....	7	2,800	6 00	1874.....	5	3,704	8 20
1875.....	3	623	11 33	1875.....	6	2,531	9 81
1876.....	3	319	10 30	1876.....	4	3,642	5 80
Total	46	10,995		Total	36	19,387	

Number of barrels of shore mackerel packed from 1863 to 1876 19,387
 Number of barrels of bay mackerel packed from 1868 to 1876..... 10,995
 Value of shore mackerel..... \$176,998 00
 Value of bay mackerel 111,699 00

The following table contains a statement of the trips I made in the bay from 1848 to 1864, inclusive:

Year.	Name of vessel.	Length of trip.	No. of barrels.	
1848.....	Juniatta	3 months..	300	Shareman's share, \$64.
1851.....	Wave	2½ months.	230	Shareman's share, \$28.69.
1852.....	R. C. Parsons (12 men)	2 months..	100	
1853.....	do	3½ months.	120	
1854.....	do	2 months..	180	} Stocked, \$2,937.56. Average price, \$9.90.
1854.....	do	do	120	
1855.....	do	4½ months.	.....	} Two trips; stock, \$2,967.56.
1856.....	E. C. Smith (17 men)	5½ months.	600	
1857.....	do	do	625	
1858.....	do	do	550	} Stock, \$5,200. Average price, \$9.44.
1859.....	do	5 months..	250	
1860.....	do	4 months..	220	} Stock, \$1,850. Average price, \$3.40.
1861.....	Kit Carson (19 men)	4½ months.	520	
1862.....	do	6 months..	604	} Stock, \$82,303.02. Average price, \$4.43.
1863.....	do	5½ months.	1,003	
1864.....	do	do	1,126	} Stock, \$9,101.87. Average price, \$9.07.
				} Stock, \$12,104.82.

Shareman from 1848 to 1851; captain from 1852 to 1864.

Thirteen years captain, 6,018 barrels. Average per year, 469.

WEDNESDAY, *October 10, 1877.*

The Conference met.

The examination of SYLVANUS SMITH was resumed.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. Will you state where you caught your mackerel from year to year while you were in the E. C. Smith?—Answer. In 1856 we made two trips; the first was caught on Bank Orphan, with the exception of about 50 barrels, as near as I can judge, which were taken in the Bay of Chaleurs, and the second trip was caught at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Whereabouts did you catch the fish in the Bay of Chaleurs?—A. Up off Paspebiac, I think, or along there. We were up in that section of the bay.

Q. How near the shore were you?—A. We were in the middle of the Bay of Chaleurs; it would be hard to judge the distance, but we were some 4 or 5 miles off shore.

Q. How wide is the bay there ?—A. I do not recollect exactly, but I think it is some 10 miles; that is, if my recollection is correct. It is some time since I was there.

Q. Where did you catch your mackerel in 1857 ?—A. On Banks Orphan and Bradley and at the Magdalen Islands; and along in the fall, about the time we went home, we fished towards the Cape Breton shore.

Q. Did you fish off the Cape Breton shore ?—A. I do not recollect of catching many mackerel there in 1857, but we then took a few off Mabou, I think; we might have caught 50 barrels or so off that shore that year, but as to this I have to depend on my memory.

Q. When did you go towards the Cape Breton shore ?—A. could not tell you now just the time, but we usually got there by the 10th or the 15th of October.

Q. What harbor did you make there ?—A. Port Hood usually.

Q. Where did you catch your mackerel in 1858 ?—A. We fished during the early part of the season on what we call the Pigeon Hill ground and on Bank Orphan; and after September we went to the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Did you fish off the Cape Breton shore in 1858 on your way home ?—A. We are almost always in the last part of the season—because the weather then becomes blowy—down about that way for a spell; I think we caught some there that year, though I cannot recollect exactly, but I would not set the quantity at over 50 barrels.

Q. How long did you stay in the vicinity of Port Hood whither it was your habit in the autumn, while on your way home from the fishing grounds, to go ?—A. We generally made Port Hood our harbor when there in bad weather; we would sometimes go in there when it was stormy, and then afterwards go out to grounds some distance off to fish; we generally made that our harbor for about two weeks in the last part of the season.

Q. You have described generally your fishing grounds for the rest of the season; and now explain at what different points in the vicinity of Port Hood you used to fish ?—A. We sometimes tried along the Margaree shore; and if we did not find anything there, we would then go off to the Magdalen Islands, or fish half way across between the Cape Breton shore and the Magdalen Islands, where there are good fishing grounds. We used to try there, as it used to be a very good fishing ground.

Q. This was half way across between Margaree Island and the Magdalen Islands ?—A. Yes.

Q. What fishing ground is situated there ?—A. I do not know of any particular bank there, but we find that it is on the route by which the mackerel come down the bay from the north; they are often met with there, and when they do not strike the shore, good fishing is to be had in that quarter.

Q. Did you fish closer to the shore off Margaree Islands than elsewhere ?—A. We did; sometimes we fished there within two miles of the shore and sometimes four or five miles off.

Q. In 1859, you caught 250 barrels in five months; where were they taken ?—A. We had a very hard year that year, and we picked our fish up so slowly, that I can hardly call to mind where we got them. During five months we filled up the small number of barrels mentioned, and we fished mostly at the Magdalen Islands, though we may have caught some few elsewhere; but still I cannot call to mind any particularly definite amount in this regard.

Q. Did you get any large catches at any place that season?—A. No; we were a long time in the bay, and we only got a few mackerel.

Q. What do you call a large day's catch?—A. 30, 40, or 50 barrels; most always a catch of that kind will remain in my mind pretty well; but I am not so likely to remember small catches.

Q. What is the biggest catch which you ever made in a day?—A. 120 barrels, I think.

Q. When was this?—A. In 1864.

Q. Whereabouts were they taken?—A. Broad off the Magdalen Islands.

Q. In 1860 you caught 220 barrels in four months; where were they taken?—A. We fished at the Magdalen Islands the most of that year.

Q. Did you try that autumn off the Cape Breton shore?—A. We most always tried there; but I do not recollect catching any fish that year off the Cape Breton shore. It was a very poor year down there.

Q. What is the largest number of barrels you remember taking in a day near Margaree Island?—A. I caught 100 barrels during one day on that shore the last time I fished there.

Q. Was this within the three-mile limit?—A. I think a portion of them was caught there; during the fore part of the day we were within three miles of the shore.

Q. Of the island or mainland?—A. We were within three miles of Mabou; the barrels in question were wash-barrels, not sea-barrels, and 100 wash-barrels would pack out about 75 sea-barrels, probably.

Q. Is there a difference of one-quarter between wash-barrels and what they pack out?—A. I should judge that 100 wash-barrels would be about 75 sea-barrels.

Q. And what is the difference between sea-barrels and what they pack out at home?—A. It is usually one-tenth, and sometimes a little more.

Q. In 1861 you were in the Kit Carson, and in 4½ months took 520 barrels; where did you catch them?—A. We fished that year around the Magdalen Islands during the whole season.

Q. Did you fish at all that year around Prince Edward Island?—A. I never fished there to get any mackerel. I have tried, but I never got fish there.

Q. Did you try there that year?—A. I might have tried some as I passed along, but I never fished there much any way.

Q. Did you fish the first year you were in the Kit Carson near Port Hood, off the Cape Breton shore?—A. We fished some off that shore, between Port Hood and Cape George during the last part of the season.

Q. Where is Cape George?—A. Between Port Hood and Prince Edward Island, about half way across.

Q. You now mention another fishing ground; what is it called?—A. Fisherman's Bank; it lies half way between Souris and Cape George.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Do you refer, when speaking of Mabou, to Mabou River or to Cape Mabou?—A. I mean Cape Mabou, a high bluff at the entrance of Broad Cove, east of Port Hood and of Mabou River.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Did you fish at the mouth of Mabou River?—A. I never saw any one fish there.

Q. The second year you were in the Kit Carson you caught 604 barrels; where were they taken?—A. All the years I was in her I fished invari-

ably at the Magdalen Islands, except for a short time at the last part of the season, when we fished down about the Cape Breton shore.

Q. Then, shall we understand that during all the years you were in the Kit Carson your exclusive fishing ground was in the vicinity of the Magdalen Islands except late in the autumn?—A. While on that vessel I never fished anywhere else, that is, to catch any fish of any account, except late in the autumn, when almost every year I caught some mackerel about the Cape Breton shore; not always inshore, but sometimes close inshore, and at other times, perhaps, some distance off; and then we would make Port Hood our harbor in bad weather.

Q. You speak of never having caught any fish off Prince Edward Island when in your last two vessels, part of which you owned, I think, the E. C. Smith and the Kit Carson?—A. Yes.

Q. Those were large vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever fish in those vessels within three miles of the shore and catch any fish off Prince Edward Island?—A. I never did. I might have hove to and caught a few scattered fish there, but I never caught enough to detain us there.

Q. Were you in the habit of resorting to harbors on the north side of Prince Edward Island?—A. I was never in those harbors with those vessels, save two or three times at Malpeque while in the first one.

Q. During the years of your fishing experience, what is the largest number of United States fishing-vessels that you have seen together at one time, so far as you can judge?—A. Well, I do not know exactly, but I should think I have seen 200 together at one time.

Q. Where?—A. At the Magdalen Islands.

Q. What is the largest number of United States fishing-vessels, according to your best information, that was ever in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in any one year fishing—speaking from what you have personally observed, and what you have learned from others?—A. I never took the matter much into consideration, but there may have been at times, perhaps, 400 such vessels in the bay. I have, however, no definite knowledge on the subject.

Q. What is the greatest number of vessels of all descriptions that you ever knew to be there?—A. There was quite a large fleet of provincial vessels there at one time, besides; I should think that their number was 100 or 150.

Q. When was this?—A. I do not recollect the exact year, but I can refer back to the vessel in which I was then to help my memory a little. I should think that this was somewhere in 1855 or 1856, or along there.

Q. When you fished, did you usually fish with the greater part of the Gloucester fishing fleet? How many was the largest number of Gloucester fishing-vessels that was ever there in one year, in your judgment?—A. I can answer that merely by guess-work, having no statistics to guide me; and I could not tell the number.

Q. Were you usually fishing with the Gloucester fleet?—A. During the last 5 or 6 years that I fished in the bay, I fished in company of the greater part of the Gloucester fleet.

Q. What, then, was the chief fishing ground of the Gloucester fleet during the last few years that you were fishing?—A. The Magdalen Islands.

Q. Have you any means of knowing how many of the Gloucester fleet were fishing at the Magdalen Islands at the time of the gale in August, 1873, when a good many went ashore there?—A. I do not know the number, but the largest part of the fleet was then there, I think; my own vessels in particular were all there.

Q. How many vessels did you then have there?—A. Five or six, I think.

Q. It has been stated that 28 Gloucester vessels then went aground at the Magdalen Islands; how many of your vessels then went aground?—A. One.

Q. One out of five or six?—A. Yes; and the captain got her afloat in a couple of days,

Q. Can you tell how many Gloucester fishing-vessels are in the Gulf of St. Lawrence this year?—A. I cannot.

Q. Nor last year?—A. I could do so only as regards my own.

Q. How many had you there last year?—A. Three; and I have two there this year.

Q. And how many the year before last?—A. Three.

Q. During the last 10 years that you fished in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, you had the right, under the Reciprocity Treaty, to fish anywhere in the bay; how, then, did it happen that you did not fish much during this period within three miles of the shore in British waters?—A. Well, we fished where we could find the most fish, and I suppose that the most fish were on the grounds on which we fished.

Q. Have you the result of your trips made to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and on the American shore since your fishing firm was organized in 1868?—A. I have them made up.

Q. How many vessels did you have in the gulf in 1868?—A. Five; we landed 625 barrels; average price, \$16.

Q. The whole five vessels only caught 625 barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. How many vessels did you have that year on our shore?—A. Five.

Q. How many barrels did they land?—A. One thousand nine hundred and sixty-one; average price, \$11.87.

Q. How many vessels did you have in the gulf in 1869?—A. Seven; they landed 1,097 barrels; average price, \$16.

Q. How many did you have on the American shore?—A. Two; they landed 1,140 barrels; average price, \$8.75.

Q. How many vessels did you have in the gulf in 1870?—A. Seven; they landed 1,038 barrels; average price, \$13.

Q. And how many on our shore?—A. Five; they landed 1,852 barrels; average price, \$8.61.

Q. And in 1871?—A. We then had five vessels in the bay; they landed 1,413 barrels; average price, \$8.

Q. How many had you on our shore?—A. Two; they landed 1,174 barrels; average price, \$9.70.

Q. And in 1872?—A. We then had three vessels in the bay and three on our shore; the former landed 789 barrels, average price, \$14; and the latter 1,494 barrels, average price, \$9.22.

Q. And in 1873?—A. We then had six vessels in the bay and four on our shore; the former landed 2,291 barrels, average price, \$9.25; and the latter 1,889 barrels, average price, \$13.93.

Q. And in 1874?—A. We then had seven vessels in the bay and five off our shore; the former landed 2,800 barrels, average price, \$6; and the latter 704 barrels, average price, \$8.20.

Q. And in 1875?—A. We then had three vessels in the bay and six on our shore; the former landed 623 barrels, average price, \$11.33; and the latter 2,531 barrels, average price, \$9.81.

Q. And in 1876?—A. We then had three vessels in the bay and four on our shore; the former landed 319 barrels, average price, \$10.20; and the latter 3,642 barrels, average price, \$5.80.

Q. How does the result of those years sum up?—A. The average

catch in the bay per vessel during these ten years was 239 barrels, and such average on our shore was 538½ barrels; the result of the stock of the vessels which fished on our shore exceeded that of those which fished in the bay by \$65,299.

Q. I notice that since your fishing firm was organized the mackerel which have been taken on the United States shore have not brought so much by the barrel as the bay mackerel; will you explain the reason for this?—A. In the early part of the year the catch of our vessels was quite large and prices then run low, while the mackerel caught then are small and of poor quality, so that though the average number of barrels taken on our shore is larger, the price realized has been smaller on the average.

Q. Compare the prices of the shore and bay mackerel for the months extending from the time when fishing usually begins in the bay—from June out to the end of the season.—A. Our bay fishing commences about the 1st of July, and I have only the figures for the whole catch.

Q. I only want to know whether the shore or the bay mackerel would sell at the higher price during those months?—A. Our shore ones fetch the most money.

Q. Suppose that you can catch mackerel on the United States shore at the same time that you do so in the bay, and then compare the prices of these mackerel caught from that date onward; would the shore mackerel be more or less in price than the bay mackerel?—A. Well, I do not know that I could answer that question; I have never figured it up, and I have no statistics to guide me to a conclusion respecting it.

Q. How many vessels have you in the Gulf of St. Lawrence this year?—A. Two.

Q. What are their names?—A. The Etta Gott and the Margie Smith.

Q. What has been the result of their voyages?—A. The Etta Gott has landed and shipped home 220 barrels, caught at the Magdalen Islands and Bird Rocks.

Q. How do you know where they were caught?—A. From what the captain has written me, and what my brother, who was in the vessel and who came home, has told me.

Q. Did the Etta Gott go seining?—A. No, she went with hooks and lines.

Q. How was it with the other vessel?—A. She went out on the same day and carried a seine. I heard from her a day or two before I came away, and she then had 60 barrels.

Q. Do you know where she had been fishing?—A. Yes; around Prince Edward Island.

Q. How do you know that?—A. From letters which were frequently sent me.

Q. During how many years have you been in the habit of using a seine on the United States shore?—A. Some 10 years.

Q. And has a large part of the mackerel which has been caught on that shore during the time that your present firm has existed been taken with seines?—A. The largest part has been so taken.

Q. Have you prior to this year tried seining in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. No.

Q. Have you known seining to be successful there?—A. I never knew any one to make a voyage by seining there.

Q. Do you know any reasons why seining has not succeeded in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. One cause is due to the shallowness of the water in it; and then the mackerel do not seem to school or play on the

surface of the water there as they do on our coast; these are the two chief reasons for it. Besides, the bottom in the gulf is of such a character that it does not well admit of seining; the seines are torn in it, and it has been found very difficult on that account. I never saw mackerel rise to the surface there anywhere else than around Prince Edward Island, where I have so seen some close in around the shore in the surf; but I have never seen mackerel rise to the surface around the Magdalen Islands.

Q. And you cannot seine them unless they do rise to the surface?—A. You have got to have them school on the surface of the water before you can so inclose them.

Q. When you are fishing generally and throwing bait over, do you not see them in the same way?—A. They then rise and come up alongside of the vessel, but they do not usually seine them in that way, but when they see the fish coming along in schools, they go out in boats and cast their seines around these schools.

Q. Why can you not seine them when you throw out bait and thus raise schools?—A. They usually do not seine them that way.

Q. You do not know whether it could be done or not?—A. O, yes; it has been tried and sometimes a few are caught that way; but not enough to make a business of it.

Q. Where were the best mackerel found in the gulf during the years when you were a fisherman?—A. I always found the best at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. What did you regard as the safest fishing-ground in the bay?—A. The Magdalen Islands.

Q. Why?—A. Because you can make a lee there with the wind in any direction.

Q. Since you gave up fishing yourself, you have, of course, no personal knowledge as to the particular places where your vessels and other Gloucester vessels have gone to; but have you any means of knowing their usual fishing-grounds?—A. Yes; by talking with the captains when they come home.

Q. Have you been in the habit of making inquiries on this subject?—A. I mostly talk the matter over with them, and ask where they have taken their voyage. This is mostly our first inquiry.

Q. Where have your vessels chiefly fished?—A. At the Magdalen Islands, in the bay, though in one case in particular some sixty barrels were once taken toward the last of the trip between Souris and Cape George; but that is the only instance which I recollect.

Q. Do you regard the fishing-grounds within three miles of the shore in the Gulf of St. Lawrence as of much or of little value?—A. I never considered them to be of any great value.

Q. How is it that the boats can do well fishing inshore when the vessels cannot do so?—A. Well, one man might go out and catch a few fish along shore; but if a vessel did so, when they came to divide the proceeds among the crew it would not pay them to stop there; one or two men might take a barrel of surf-mackerel in a day, and it would be a good day's work for them, though that would not pay 17 men.

Q. How much bait have you ever thrown over in a day in the Kit Carson, the largest vessel in which you fished?—A. I have thrown 6 barrels over in one day.

Q. How much did it cost a barrel?—A. It would average \$5 or \$6; however, on some days we would throw over but little bait.

Q. How deep do you think the water must be to enable a school of mackerel to be raised and to afford a good day's fishing?—A. Well, I

could not say that there is any rule for that. The fish often are on the Banks when, perhaps, they may not be found in very shoal places in any quantity, but still some mackerel might be there.

Q. I notice that you had some vessels in the gulf in 1866 and 1867, when licenses were taken out. You have not examined the record of your business for those years, I believe?—A. No. I had only access to my own books, and the books containing that information were in the possession of another concern.

Q. How many vessels did you have in the gulf in 1866?—A. Six or seven, I think, but I could not give the number exactly.

Q. If the figures that are given me are correct, you must have had more than that; I will name them over. Was the Winged Arrow one of the vessels you had in the gulf that year?—A. Yes.

Q. And the Eureka another?—A. She was owned by the master, but was fitted out by us.

Q. Was the Ada L. Harris another?—A. Yes.

Q. And the Arequipa another?—A. Yes.

Q. Had you the A. J. Franklin also there?—A. Yes.

Q. And the Bridget Ann?—A. She was owned by the master, but fitted out by us.

Q. And the Northerner?—A. Yes.

Q. And the Alferetta?—A. Yes; the captain, however, owned part of her.

Q. And the Colonel Ellsworth?—A. Yes.

Q. Several of these were owned by you and the rest you fitted out?—A. Yes.

Q. These vessels are put down as having taken out licenses in 1866; who paid for these licenses, and how were these payments charged?—

A. My impression is that they were charged to the stock of the vessels.

Q. So that one-half of their cost was paid by the men?—A. That is my impression.

Q. Explain why you took out licenses in 1866, when it was the habit of your vessels to fish at the places you have mentioned.—A. Well, we thought it was better for the vessels to take out licenses to avoid any liability of seizure which they might incur and to save them from possible annoyance.

Q. When you were in the bay before the Reciprocity Treaty, did you observe any cutters there?—A. O, yes; frequently. I saw them and was boarded by them.

Q. But your vessel was never seized?—A. No; but I was threatened with seizure.

Q. Why?—A. I was once up in the Bay of Chaleurs; we were in a harbor during a storm, and on coming out the officer of a cutter boarded our vessel and other vessels, for quite a fleet had run down there, and he used pretty violent language. He said that he would seize my vessel if he caught her in there again, and he indorsed a paper stating that the vessel had been boarded.

Q. In what harbor had you been?—A. Shippegan.

Q. Had you been fishing in the Bay of Chaleurs?—A. No.

Q. What had the other vessels which were with you been doing?—A. All of them, 40 or 50 in number, I should think, went in for a harbor.

Q. Did you hear of vessels being seized for curing mackerel inshore that they had caught off shore?—A. I heard such a report on the fishing-grounds; but that is not to my present knowledge.

Q. Did you hear of commanders of cutters levying contributions on some masters of fishing-vessels, compelling them to give from 5 to 10

and 20 barrels of mackerel, under pain of capture on refusal to do so?—A. I heard that this was the case; that was the common report among the fishermen in the bay at the time; but I have no personal knowledge in this regard,

Q. I have read from the 487th page of Sabine's report, which gives the details, although it does not mention any name.—A. I think that the master of the vessel that did so was Captain Darby.

Q. Those statements were believed by the American fishermen to be true, whether this was the case or not?—A. We believed the stories, but I cannot say whether they were true or not.

Q. In 1867, the license-fee was raised to \$1 a ton, and then three vessels connected with your firm apparently took out licenses. Was the *Altona* your vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. And also the *Winged Arrow* and *Alferetta*?—A. Yes.

Q. You do not remember whether they took out licenses or not?—A. No, I could not tell.

Q. Who had charge of the books of your first firm?—A. We had a bookkeeper, Mr. Jordan, who was also one of the partners.

Q. Did you take out any licenses in 1868?—A. I think not; I do not know that we did so, but I would state, as chief owner of the vessels of the firm, that I did not wish them to take out licenses that year; still I do not say that in some instances they might [not] have been taken, though I instructed the captains not to do so.

Q. Can you tell the result of the voyages of your vessels on the American shore this year?—A. No, I have no statistics in this connection.

Q. How many vessels have you had engaged in mackerel-fishing this year on our shore?—A. Only two.

Q. You do not know whether they have done well or poorly?—A. They have done very well lately, but in midsummer they did not do much. They have, however, made very good catches during the last four weeks.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel do you think that a schooner must take in a trip in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence in order to make the result profitable to the owner?—A. Our best vessels are of about 75 tons; and one of them must take not less than 400 barrels, or between that number and 500, to make any kind of a paying voyage.

Q. During what length of time?—A. The season; a four months' trip.

Q. This is a statement of the expenses connected with such a voyage?—A. Yes; it is a statement of a suppositious fishing-voyage made up with the bills that would be necessary for such a trip to the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. It is based on the price which mackerel brought the day I came away from home and for which bay trips then sold.

Q. And on what catch is it based?—A. A catch of 400 barrels.

Q. Explain the items.—A. The vessel would land 200 barrels No. 1 mackerel, worth \$16 a barrel, making \$3,200; 100 barrels No. 2, worth \$10 a barrel, making \$1,000; and 100 barrels No. 3, worth \$6 a barrel, making \$600. This is about the way in which such a trip would pack out—half ones, one-quarter twos, and one-quarter threes.

Q. You have given the actual prices of such mackerel?—A. Yes; the prices which ruled the day I left home.

Q. That is without the charge of packing out?—A. Yes.

Q. What would be the result of the voyage?—A. \$4,800 would be the value of the gross stocks.

Q. Show what the crew and captain would respectively get.—A. The bills against the voyage, based on actual prices, are 40 barrels of porgy bait, worth \$6 a barrel, making \$240. I bought some bait a few days

before I left home at \$6. Forty barrels would not be a large amount for such a vessel. Then there would be 10 barrels of salt clams, worth \$8 a barrel, making \$80. That would not be a large quantity of clams for such a vessel on a 4 months' trip.

Q. It is a fair supply of bait?—A. Yes. The expenses per barrel and for packing 400 barrels of mackerel, at \$1.75 a barrel, would amount to \$700. That is the actual present charge this season for packing, as made by all the firms.

Q. It includes the price of the barrels?—A. Yes. The stock charges would hence amount to \$1,020, and the net stock would consequently be \$3,780, the crew's half amounting to \$1,890; and this, divided among 16 hands, which number would be necessary on a vessel of that size, would leave \$118.12 for each man.

Q. At what figure do you estimate the tonnage of the vessel?—A. 70, new measurement.

Q. Have you not got two more men than is usual?—A. No; that is about a fair average crew for a vessel of that description.

Q. Is it economical and does it show good judgment to have 16 men on such a vessel?—A. That would be about all the men that could stand alongside of each other and fish conveniently.

Q. And such a vessel would accommodate that many?—A. Yes; about. The charterer of the vessel would pay the expenses of the voyage; and provisions and fuel, &c., for 16 men for 4 months would cost 40 cents a day per man, amounting in all to \$700. We find by looking over our accounts last season that this was the usual cost in this regard—40 cents a day for each man. Then there are 120 barrels of salt to cure the mackerel; it is worth \$1 a barrel, making \$120.

Q. Is that the actual price of Liverpool salt now?—A. Yes.

Q. And that is the right quantity of salt for such a vessel?—A. I consider so. A bait-mill would cost \$15, and fishing gear \$50.

Q. How long does a bait-mill last?—A. Two years, I suppose.

Q. Then out of that \$15 you might save \$7.50?—A. Yes; with repairs such a mill might last two years.

Q. What is to be done with a bait-mill to keep it in order?—A. The teeth get out very frequently, and the mill has to be taken apart and teeth inserted. Besides, there are some little charges connected with the clearing of the vessel, such as 8 cents per hogshead of salt for weighing-fees, &c., which amount to about \$15.

Q. You have given the price of salt in bond?—A. Yes; we also find in fitting out vessels that we have to buy some fresh provisions in the bay, which cost from \$50 to \$100, and I have put down as the disbursement for that purpose during the voyage \$60.

Q. That is in excess of the 40 cents a day already mentioned?—A. Yes.

Q. I suppose that in the course of a four months' trip the health of the crew requires a supply of fresh vegetables, &c.?—A. They have to have fresh vegetables, potatoes, &c., which they cannot always carry with them on the voyage. I allow \$250 a month for the charter of the schooner, making for the four months \$1,000.

Q. Is \$250 a month a fair price for the charter of such a schooner?—A. That is about the usual price for a vessel of that size going to the Banks.

Q. What do you estimate such a vessel to be worth?—A. \$7,000 or \$7,500.

Q. Is that a high price for a Gloucester mackerel-fishing vessel of that size?—A. It is not.

Q. Could one be built for less now?—A. I think not. I had a vessel of that size built last spring, and she cost me more money—she cost some \$7,500, or more.

Q. Proceed with your statement.—A. I put down as insurance on the charter and outfits, including barrels, \$104.20, which is based on 4 per cent. for the voyage; the rate we charge in our office for a voyage of that kind.

Q. You charge 4 per cent. for 4 months?—A. Yes.

Q. For how much do you insure with these \$104.20?—A. A little short of \$3,000.

Q. Would it not be about \$2,500?—A. I guess it would.

Q. What is embraced in the policy of \$2,500? It does not cover the value of the hull of the vessel?—A. No; but it includes the material put on board of her for her voyage.

Q. And how much do these expenses sum up?—A. \$2,215.40.

Q. Is that a fair policy to take by the charterer of the vessel?—A. Yes; I consider that it is.

Q. Is it a large or small estimate?—A. It is not a large one; it only covers the actual outfit and charter for which he is liable to pay, whether the vessel returns or not.

Q. The charter of the vessel is to be paid for whether she is lost or not?—A. This is the case up to the time when she is lost.

Q. Proceed to the next item?—A. The charterer's expenses amount to \$2,215.40; his half of the stock with which he has to pay these expenses is \$1,890, and this shows a loss of \$325.40.

Q. So that if a man had a vessel and paid \$1,000 for her for four months, and got 400 barrels of mackerel, he would gain nothing for his time, but lose money?—A. Yes; and there are some other expenses which I did not read; there is the master's commission of 4 per cent. on the net stock, \$3,780, and that amounts to \$151.20.

Q. That is in addition to his share?—A. Yes.

Q. Suppose that a man owned his own vessel, which was new, having cost \$7,000, what would be a fair percentage to charge for depreciation right along from year to year?—A. I have made it up, and put it down at \$300, as a fair amount for depreciation for a voyage of four months.

Q. How much would that be by the year?—A. If we take it for a series of years, perhaps it would not be so much in proportion; perhaps \$700 might be a fair depreciation for a number of years. This statement which I have prepared is as follows:

NEW SCHOONER, CHARTERED. TONNAGE, 70 TONS.

For four months' mackerel-fishing in Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1877.

STOCK CHARGES.

40 bbls. of porgy bait, at \$6.....	\$240 00
10 bbls. of clam bait, at \$8.....	80 00
Expense for barrels and packing 400, at \$1.75.....	700 00
Stock charges.....	1,020 00

OUTFITS AND EXPENSES.

Provisions, fuel, &c., for 16 men, 4 months, at 40 cents per day each.....	\$700 00
120 bbls. Liverpool salt.....	120 00
Bait-mill \$15, fishing gear \$50.....	65 00
Custom-house and port charges.....	15 00
Fresh provisions bought in bay.....	60 00

Charter of schooner, 4 months, at \$250.....	1,000 00
Insurance on charter and outfits, including with above—barrels \$400, and bait \$320—\$2,605, at 4 per cent	104 20
Skippership or master's commission on net stock \$3,780, at 4 per cent.....	151 20
Total expense account, without interest.....	2,215 40

CATCH.

200 bbls. of No. 1 mackerel, at \$16.....	\$3,200 00
100 bbls. of No. 2 mackerel, at \$10.....	1,000 00
100 bbls. of No. 3 mackerel, at \$6.....	600 00
Gross stock	4,800 00
Less stock charges.....	1,020 00
Net stock	3,780 00
Amount of charterer's half.....	1,890 00
Amount of crew's half.....	1,890 00
Total net stock.....	3,780 00
Crew's half.....	1,890 00
Average share (16 hands).....	118 12
Charterer's expenses.....	2,215 40
Charterer's receipts	1,890 00
Loss, without 4 months' interest on outfits.....	325 40

DR.

VESSEL'S ACCOUNT.

CR.

1877. To insurance on \$7,000, four months, at 4 per cent. \$280 00	By charter	\$1,000 00
Taxes on \$6,000, four months, at \$18 per thousand.....	36 00	
Interest on \$7,000, four months, at 7 per cent. per annum	163 33	
Depreciation on vessel, four months	300 00	
	779 33	
Gain on charter	220 67	
	1,000 00	1,000 00

Q. Would 10 per cent. per annum be a fair charge for depreciation on a fishing-vessel?—A. I think so; it would be under rather than over actual depreciation during that time.

Q. Suppose a man owned a vessel and engaged in business with her, or chartered her, during how many months in the year can he expect to earn money with her; can he so earn during the whole twelve of the months?—A. She will have to be laid up for three or four months in the year, sometimes longer or not so long; but, speaking generally, this will be the case for four months.

Q. Then a vessel that is chartered would not earn charter-money for more than nine months in a year?—A. This would not be the case for over nine months and perhaps it would for less than that.

Q. Chartered at the rate of \$250, a vessel would earn \$2,250 a year. What insurance would the owner have to pay to cover him on a vessel worth \$7,000 for nine months in the year, while under charter?—A. About 7 per cent., I think.

Q. For nine months?—A. Yes

Q. For how much would he insure the vessel?—A. For seven-eighths of her actual value, I think.

Q. What would be the taxes levied in Gloucester on a vessel costing \$7,000?—A. Somewhere about \$36, I think. Do you mean for the whole year?

Q. Yes; I want to see how the owner who puts \$7,000 in money into a vessel comes out. What percentage of the policy of insurance must he lose in order to recover value under the policy?—A. About 12 per cent. on a vessel of that description. As a vessel grows older the rate is higher, and then it ranges from 12 to 20 per cent. on sails and rigging.

Q. That is the amount on the vessel which cannot be underwritten?—A. There has to be that amount taken off before the company holds itself responsible.

Q. Do your policies cover the value of cables and rigging?—A. No; that is a total loss.

Q. If the 400 barrels of mackerel were caught in less than four months, the figures would be altered and the expenses would be less?—A. Yes.

Q. How would this be on the whole?—A. It would not be proportionately less, if outfits were taken for a voyage of that kind; but for a short voyage the expenses might be something less.

Q. How much must mackerel sell for a barrel to make the business a successful one for the merchant?—A. Well, we consider the business to be best when the prices are low and the quantity offering large; such a year we consider to be the most favorable.

Q. Why?—A. The mackerel are then more evenly distributed; all get a portion; and we find that such years make the best years in the business. When mackerel are down to \$9 or \$10 a barrel, we make more successful voyages, but when high prices rule, we find that the market does not take a large quantity of fish.

Q. Why not?—A. I do not know, save it be because the people won't then eat the fish.

Q. Who eat the common mackerel; where do these go?—A. A great portion of this quality of mackerel goes to the Southwest and West.

Q. Are these eaten in the New England States?—A. They are used there very little, I think.

Q. Mess mackerel, which is quite expensive, how large a quantity of that does the market take?—A. The demand is quite limited. It is eaten most on our large seaboard cities.

Q. Now, at \$20, supposing the mackerel are of the best quality, how many barrels would be sold in your estimation?—A. I should judge 10,000 barrels would be all that could be sold on the market at the price of \$20 or upward.

Q. Have you had any experience in selling mackerel to merchants to sell again, with reference to the effect of a high or the low price as to the amount that a dealer would take?—A. I have had considerable experience in selling mackerel.

Q. You sell mackerel to go how far West.—A. My customers are mostly on the New York Central Road to Chicago, Minnesota, some around Saint Louis.

Q. You mentioned to me an instance of a customer who took a considerable quantity of you at last year's prices. I wish you would relate them to the Commission?—A. It was in Indiana. Last year he had some. During the season he had some 1,000 or 1,200 barrels.

Q. At what price?—A. \$7 and \$8.

Q. Poor mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. What are they selling for this year and what does he do?—A. They have been selling for \$12 until recently, and then they come down to \$10. He has been to my place recently, but he said he didn't know whether he would purchase any.

Q. Will mackerel be taken for consumption at a price above that of other staple articles of equivalent food value?—A. I don't think they will in very large quantities.

Q. Now, what causes have been in existence interfering with the sale of salt mackerel during the past few years?—A. I think there have been several causes. One is the facility of carrying our fresh fish into distant parts of the country. That has materially interfered with it. Then there is the lake herring; during the months of November and December until May they are very plenty. They are now used in very large quantities all throughout the West.

Q. What are lake herring?—A. A species of white fish, I think, only smaller.

Q. What do they sell for per barrel?—A. This party I referred to, speaking of his trade, said that last year he used 30,000 packages. A package is a half barrel.

Q. How are these put up?—A. Pickled. And he told me they were sold at \$2 a package.

Q. You say these have interfered with the constancy of the demand?—A. I think, during the months we used to depend very largely on the consumption of our mackerel, the lake herring has been one great cause for the decline during these months in the market-value of mackerel.

Q. As to the increased supply of fresh fish, and the extensive area over which it can be distributed, what effect has that?—A. Well, we employ a very large fleet on the Grand Banks and other off-shore Banks for halibut, and there have been of late years very large quantities taken, and the prices have been very low. They are going to all parts of the country, and I think that has had its effect. People will not eat salt fish when they can get fresh.

Q. How far West have you sent any halibut, or do you know of it being sent fresh in ice?—A. I have known instances where one of our neighbors receives them up in Montana. I don't know in what quantities. He ships them right direct.

Q. But as far as Mississippi does the fresh fish in ice go?—A. All along that section, I think.

Q. Taking such cities as Cincinnati, Chicago, Saint Louis, to say nothing of hundreds of smaller ones?—A. They are supplied with fresh fish in many instances. The cars take them right through.

Q. Now, I want to ask you something about the herring fishery. How extensive is the herring fishery in the waters of the United States?—A. Well, I haven't any statistics of the herring catch. There are very large quantities taken there all along in the months of September and October, about six weeks in September and October, all along our shores.

Q. How are they taken?—A. All in nets.

Q. What becomes of them?—A. Generally the largest part are used in our Western trade. Last year there was quite a large amount that was shipped to Sweden. I don't know what quantities. I should say some seven or eight barks or brigs loaded from Gloucester.

Q. Were they United States fish?—A. They were packed in Gloucester fresh.

Q. Where were they from?—A. They were caught around in the vicinity of Gloucester and Boston.

Q. Off the coast of Massachusetts?—A. Yes, off the coast of Massachusetts.

Q. Seven or eight barks you say. How many barrels to a bark?—A. I don't know what they took. I saw the vessels there. I can't say precisely the number. I should think they might probably have taken 5,000 barrels apiece.

Q. They went to Sweden?—A. Gottenburg, I believe.

Q. Have your vessels ever fished for herring in British waters or have you yourself?—A. I have been to the Magdalen Islands for herring. I have never fished there. I have been there for herring.

Q. How did you get them?—A. I bought them.

Q. From whom?—A. Provincial people.

Q. What did you do with the herring?—A. I carried them to Boston and used them for smoking purposes, as well as shipped them to the West Indies.

Q. Did you carry them fresh and frozen?—A. No; salted.

Q. Are they smoked after being salted?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you have anything to do with that Magdalen Island herring business?—A. (Referring to memorandum.) I was there in 1860, 1861, and 1862, I think. Those are the only years.

Q. What season?—A. During the month of May.

Q. Now, have you been to Newfoundland?—A. I have been there seven winters to buy herring.

Q. Beginning when?—A. I was there in 1857 the first year.

Q. Were you connected with Andrew Layton?—A. I was in company with him. We were the first ones to go there from our place for herring.

Q. Did you ever fish for any herring there?—A. I never did.

Q. How did you pay for them?—A. Partly with supplies, provisions, and the most in specie.

Q. Did you go prepared to fish for herring?—A. Never.

Q. Did you ever know a United States vessel that did?—A. I never heard of them.

Q. Now, do you know of any catching of herring prosecuted by United States vessels in any British waters anywhere?—A. I never knew of any. I have known them to go to Labrador in the summer for herring—some vessels.

Q. What is the price of herring? Give me some idea.—A. The price of herring varies very much. Magdalen herring are a very cheap fish, usually selling from the vessel at about \$1.50 for 228 pounds, the way we sell them.

Q. At Gloucester?—A. Yes. Our shore herring is selling from the boats now, including the barrel, at about \$3.00.

Q. What is the barrel worth?—A. Well, we consider it worth about a dollar usually.

Q. What would be the effect of a duty of a dollar a barrel on pickled herring, or five cents a box on smoked herring, upon the importation of herring from foreign countries—from the Dominion into the United States?—A. It would be prohibitory on the barreled herring, which is a cheap herring. I can't speak of the box herring, for I have no knowledge of it.

Q. Your business relations have brought you into contact with a good many of the business men and fishermen of the provinces, I suppose?—A. Very much. I have traded to all parts of the provinces.

Q. If you have the means of telling either from personal observation

or from information derived from others, I would like to know what was the effect upon the provincial fishing interests of the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty, that is the imposition of the duty in 1866.—A. I have no means of actual knowledge except that I have conversed with people acquainted with the matter, the merchants of Canso; the people I have been intimately acquainted with in this way have said it was very disastrous to their business. That is all. I had no personal knowledge.

Q. During the continuance of the Reciprocity Treaty were there a good many fishing vessels from the provinces engaged in the fishing business?—A. The last year of my fishing in these waters there was quite a large fleet from the West Shore, Chester, Lunenburg, and from that down. They built up a very fine fleet of vessels.

Q. Did they continue in the fishing business after Reciprocity?—A. I have no personal knowledge only of some that told me this. They told me their business had very much run down. That is all the knowledge I have of it.

Q. What effect, in your judgment, would the reimposition of similar duties have upon the provincial fisheries?—A. I think the effect would be the decline of these fisheries if there was a duty put upon them.

Q. Then if they ceased to send their fish to the United States, or sent them in less quantities, how would the difference in the quantity of fish be made up?—A. Well, I think it would naturally stimulate our own production. I suppose that would be the tendency.

Q. The operation of the duty, in your judgment, would be to effect a transfer of the business from the Dominion to the United States?—A. I think it would stimulate the business to a greater amount.

Q. What branch of fishing is the chief industry of Gloucester?—A. The cod fishery.

Q. What is the proportion, in your judgment, without statistics, of the cod fishery to the mackerel fishery?—A. Well, I can answer for myself. Within the last few years we, as curers of fish, cured about from 18,000 to 20,000 quintals of codfish in the season. We packed from 3,000 to 6,000 barrels of mackerel.

Q. Well, give the proportion of your own business. How much of that is codfish, and how much is mackerel? You have given it in quintals, give it in fractions. Is the cod fishing twice or three times as great?—A. About \$100,000 for the codfishery, and, well, about one-third as much for the mackerel fishery. Then we have other branches; our fresh-halibut fishing.

Q. You are engaged in that fresh-halibut fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. What do you do with the fresh halibut?—A. We sell them to the merchants, and they distribute them over the country.

Q. Where are they caught?—A. Most of them catch them on the edge of the Banks in about 200 fathoms, where it falls off towards the Gulf Stream.

Q. How near shore to any place have you known of the halibut being fished?—A. 150 miles may be the nearest point.

Q. These are Banks, but haven't you known it to be done, or attempted, near shore?—A. I have.

Q. Where have you known them?—A. On the Labrador coast they have caught them large near the shore. I have known them catch them in 30 miles or 25 miles, around Cape Sable. I fished there quite a number of years—around Seal Island and Brown's Bank.

Q. How near land there did you ever fish?—A. I have fished in sight of land. I could see it.

Q. Did you ever fish within three miles?—A. No; I don't think any one could fish in there, because it is not a fishing ground.

Q. You don't know of any one?—A. No.

Q. You told me you had a vessel that strayed up into the Gulf of St. Lawrence for halibut. Give me an account of that.—A. I forget the year. I could tell by referring to a memorandum. I think it was somewhere about 1872. I am not precise, '72 or '73.

Q. Before the present treaty?—A. Yes.

Q. A long or a short time before?—A. I think it was about the time it went into action.

Q. Well, what was the name of the vessel, and what happened to her?—A. He was looking for halibut and trying close inshore. He didn't catch any. He was seized and carried to Quebec.

Q. Well, you got your vessel released, and there was no complaint?—A. Yes, we got her released. It was all satisfactory.

Q. I wanted to know whether you had known, excepting that instance, of any halibut fish there?—A. I know that about a week afterwards a vessel was doing the same thing up there. Our vessels go prospecting around to see where they can find fish, and he was looking for halibut, and was taken.

Q. Did these vessels catch any halibut?—A. I don't know of any catching any.

Q. Do you know of any American vessels fishing for halibut in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Nowhere, unless north and east of Anticosti—we call it Labrador shore—near Red Island, I think the place is called. I have heard of several trips caught there. It is down towards Belle Isle. That was some six years ago, I think. Two or three vessels caught parts of trips or their whole trips there. The one I have referred to is the only one I ever knew that was catching halibut inshore.

Q. Do you think the Canadian catch of mackerel that comes into the United States market has any perceptible effect upon the price of mackerel in the market?—A. Well, I don't think it has a great deal. It would, perhaps, have some.

Q. What is it regulates the price principally?—A. Well, the supply and demand would regulate the price up to a certain standard. When you get beyond that—I will illustrate it. This season there was a short supply of mackerel, and when they got up to a certain point—\$12 a barrel or \$14 a barrel—customers would not take them, and they dropped to \$12, when they were bought a little more freely, but they didn't go off, although the quantity was small. When I came away, the mackerel were being taken at \$10 quite freely. When they get to a certain point they seem to stop the consumption. Buyers say they can't handle them to profit. They say people will not eat them.

Q. You spoke of \$1.75 as being the charge for packing out mackerel at Gloucester this year, including the cost of barrels. I want to ask you whether, when a mackerel schooner comes to wharf and her fish is packed out, she is charged wharfage?—A. No; in no instance do they charge wharfage. The mackerel are packed, the barrels found and coopered, they are salted and branded all at the expense of the packer; and for that he charges \$1.75. This is a customary charge throughout the town.

Q. Then the mackerel packer owning the wharf gets his interest on the cost of his wharf, his rent for his wharf and buildings, in that \$1.75?—A. Yes. Two years ago it was \$2. This year it is \$1.75.

Q. But the income for the wharf property comes out of that?—A. Yes.

Q. How much would these wharves cost, some of them?—A. Mine cost me \$25,000. Some are more expensive than mine, and some less.

Q. Have you ever known any cod-fishing vessel go prepared to catch mackerel as well as cod, or of any mackerel vessel going prepared to catch cod as well as mackerel—mixed trips of that sort?—A. I never knew of any. They might catch a barrel.

Q. Your Gloucester halibut catchers go as far as Greenland or Iceland sometimes?—A. Not for fresh, but salted halibut.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. You spoke of the cost of your wharf as \$25,000?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that an average?—A. I don't think that is an average. There are some lower and some higher.

Q. Your business premises, I suppose, would in value involve the outlay of a large sum of money besides that?—A. There is nothing connected with the business but the wharf.

Q. You do all your business on the wharf?—A. That includes the buildings on the wharf. Our store is just on the upland. We include that as part of our wharf.

Q. How many vessels are you interested in now?—A. We own 14.

Q. As matters go, the world has smiled very favorably on you. That is so, is it not?—A. I have been considered one of the most successful ones at the place.

Q. What are the vessels worth apiece?—A. To-day? It would be a very hard question to answer.

Q. I don't mean to say if you were to force them upon the market. But what do you value them at—\$7,000?—A. That is one of the new ones. Many of them have been running some 12 years and have run down very materially in value—some down to \$1,500.

Q. You built a new one in April?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. Just one this year.

Q. What ones have been running 12 years?—A. Well, we have several of them that have been 12 years and some that have been running 18 years.

Q. You have of course your premises besides these, where you reside?—A. I have a place where I live.

Q. Your partner too, I suppose?—A. He has not any house.

Q. I think you said that, in your opinion, the influx of Canadian mackerel did not very much affect the markets in the United States. Do you say that?—A. Well, not to any great extent.

Q. I just want to know if you have examined the statistics with the view to ascertain what proportion of the whole quantity of mackerel consumed in the United States comes from Canada?—A. I have not.

Q. Well, it would depend pretty much upon how you found the statistics what your answer would be?—A. Well, not with regard to our own catch; the largeness or smallness of our own catch has made the price higher or lower more than anything else; I have watched that.

Q. I quite understand that a large or small catch there would more or less affect prices; but supposing you examined the statistics and found that one-third of the mackerel consumed came from Canadian waters, would you then say that the importation of that quantity did not materially affect the market? I will put it at one-fourth.—A. It would affect it up to a certain point; beyond that, I think, the market would not take them.

Q. Well, would not the effect be to reduce the price; the people would take them if they went down low enough, wouldn't they?—A. When mackerel gets at a low figure there is a great consumption.

Q. Would not the influx of a very large quantity of fish materially affect the price?—A. It would not materially affect it at the present market rates.

Q. Why?—A. Because the prices have got down now to where the market will take mackerel; at higher rates it would have effect.

Q. Do you mean to say that almost any quantity could be consumed at the present low prices?—A. Well, a large quantity.

Q. Well, I mean any reasonable quantity that could come in?—A. Well, year before last we had a very large catch, and the markets seemed to take them.

Q. Well, I will put my question in another way. Suppose one-quarter of the mackerel now supplied were withdrawn from the market, what effect would it have as to prices?—A. Well, I suppose the price would be somewhat higher, but the market would not take them beyond a certain point.

Q. Now, see. Take them at the prices now ruling. Supposing one-fourth of the quantity now in the market was withdrawn, would not the price of the three fourths remaining naturally and inevitably rise?—A. They would rise some.

Q. In consequence of the withdrawal of the one quarter?—A. I think it would affect it some; not more than 50 cents a barrel; I think it would to that amount.

Q. The reason I ask is that, examining your statistics, I find that the price of mackerel rises and falls more than any other commodity I know of, going sometimes from \$22 down to \$7. Is not that caused chiefly by the large quantity brought into the market?—A. It is not. If you will allow me to illustrate the case, I will take mackerel that sold for \$22 some years ago, and after months of consumption, without any mackerel coming in, they went down to \$6.

Q. What year was that?—A. I will not be exact. I think about five years ago I sold some for \$22 in the fall, and afterwards they went for \$6, and none came in.

Q. Are you sure about that?—A. I am sure.

Q. How do you know none came in?—A. I say no new catch.

Q. I fancy the year you and I refer to is the same. I will read from the annual report of the Chief of Statistics for 1871. I find that No. 1 mackerel in January were selling for \$22 a barrel to \$22.50; in February the same; in March the same; in April the same; in May they dropped to \$18; in June they were \$18. That is as the spring catch comes in in May and June.—A. There are not many come in May.

Q. Well, in June. I am told they go in April, and I assume that at the latter end of May some would come in.—A. Not many salt fish until June.

Q. Well, the fresh would be coming in to take the place of the salt.—A. I don't think many.

Q. Well, I will take June. Some would come in then.—A. The last of June.

Q. Very well. Then in July they dropped to \$12; in August to \$7.—A. I think those reports are based on the retail prices that they were in the market, not the Gloucester prices.

Q. Well, I am speaking of the market prices which the mackerel bring. I am reading from a statement showing the prices of staple articles in the New York market at the beginning of last month.—A. Well, the year I refer to I took our wholesale prices. I don't know what the Washington markets or any of those New York markets might have been charging.

Q. I selected that year because I thought it was the one you referred to.—A. I only knew the year we lost so much money in Gloucester on mackerel was when mackerel was high in the fall and low in the spring.

Q. I ask you this: Can you recall the year 1871 to your mind? That was the year of the Washington Treaty. Are you or are you not aware that American vessels were admitted to the waters of Prince Edward Island?—A. I have no knowledge about anything of that kind.

Q. Were not your vessels there?—A. I think I might have heard them say that they were. I don't recollect.

Q. I find a rather curious coincidence that the price of mackerel fell just about that time, and it struck me that the fact of their being allowed to catch there might have something to do with it?—A. That year?

Q. I speak of 1871.—A. My vessels don't show a very large catch that year.

Q. Your vessels, you say, have never fished near Prince Edward Island, so that is quite consistent with my theory; but you will acknowledge, I think, and that is as much as I want, that generally speaking the supply regulates the price.—A. To a certain extent.

Q. To a material extent. Will you go as far as that?—A. Well, up to a certain point. If there was a very small quantity I don't think the market would take them. The trade will not take them beyond a certain limit. When the mackerel goes to \$14 a barrel, or along there to \$15, that is our own mackerel, they will not take them.

Q. They pay \$25 for some.—A. That is men that have the money to pay, not poor people.

Q. But there is a class who will pay a large price for the best fish—10,000 people you put it at.—A. I don't know exactly.

Q. Supposing the mackerel caught in colonial waters were excluded, would it, or would it not, have any effect upon the price you get for your fish? Supposing one-fourth of the quantity consumed in the States was excluded, would it have any effect on the price of the other three-fourths?—A. I think some, not much. I think it would stimulate our home production.

Q. In what way would it stimulate it? By raising the price, is it not?—A. Well, to a small extent.

Q. What do you mean by to a small extent?—A. Well, I think up to a certain point the market does not seem to take mackerel when they go beyond a certain figure. At \$15 and along there the mackerel drags hard, even with a small quantity. It was surprising to me this year, having mackerel to sell, that I had to look round to find buyers. But when we have large quantities at low prices it seemed to me everybody wanted to buy.

Q. You are speaking of the Gloucester markets?—A. I have no knowledge of any other market. I find my customers when they get to a certain point will not take them.

Q. Well, then the effect of the British mackerel coming in is that the consumer is able to buy it cheaper than he otherwise would?—A. Well, up to a certain point. The effect would be very small. There is not a large enough quantity. It is our home catch that affects it.

Q. I am putting what I conceive to be the fact, as I said, that one-fourth of the mackerel consumed comes from the provinces. Would not the exclusion of that naturally give you an enhanced price for the other three-fourths?—A. Well, I think it would to a certain extent, to a small amount, I don't know how much.

Q. You made the same statement with regard to herring. I suppose

your answer would be the same as to that, as it is with regard to the mackerel?—A. I say that a duty up beyond a certain point would make them almost worthless.

Q. It would be prohibitory, you said?—A. I think it would be on cheap herring.

Q. Would not the price go up?—A. No. I don't think the market would take them at high figures, not that quality. I don't think they would go beyond \$2.

Q. Two dollars a barrel is the outside limit they can be sold for. Now, if a large quantity comes in from a foreign market, must not the price naturally fall well below that outside limit?—A. Well, I suppose it would fall some; when the fish goes down to a low price the market seems to take a very large quantity.

Q. That is just what I say. Now a word or two (before I come to the main question) about halibut. Have you been engaged practically in catching halibut since the year 1864?—A. I have not—not as a fisherman.

Q. You cannot speak of the places where halibut have been caught since that time from practical knowledge?—A. No.

Q. Previous to 1864 you were engaged. How many seasons were you engaged catching halibut?—A. I think some six or eight.

Q. When you were then engaged did you go into the Gulf of St. Lawrence at all for halibut?—A. Never.

Q. Are you aware that there is a halibut-fishery around Anticosti?—A. I never was aware of any.

Q. Well, the fact that two vessels were seized there while inside trying to catch would be some evidence that they believed the halibut were there?—A. Well, they look for them everywhere.

Q. Don't you think they must have had reasonable grounds?—A. I don't think it; they are in the habit of looking everywhere they may be.

Q. Do you stand by the full meaning of your answer, that you don't think they had reasonable grounds for believing the fish to be there?—A. Well, a man might have reasonable grounds for believing they were in the water anywhere.

Q. Well, we have had evidence that the shores around Anticosti are well known as a halibut-ground, and that quantities are taken over at Gaspé too. Do you tell me you have never heard of those grounds being halibut-grounds?—A. Not by our vessels catching them there.

Q. I do not care whether by your vessels or any other?—A. I never heard them spoken of.

Q. What did you mean by answering me "not by your vessels catching them"?—A. I meant that I never heard them spoken of.

Q. I wanted to know whether you were aware of persons fishing for halibut around those coasts?—A. Never of their catching any.

Q. I did not ask you that.—A. I have no knowledge of it.

Q. Have you ever heard from those who have knowledge of the business whether halibut are caught around those coasts?—A. I can't say I have.

Q. Will you say you have not?—A. I don't know; I might have heard some one say they caught halibut there.

Q. Your evidence is that those two vessels, in your belief, went there without any previous knowledge that it was a halibut-ground, on pure, mere speculation?—A. Certainly. We had vessels this year that went into three hundred fathoms of water, when they had no evidence of fish being there. They went there and tried. They had never any knowledge, or any one else.

Q. I dare say ; but here are vessels going in and rendering themselves liable to seizure, being, in fact, actually seized there ; and you say they went to those places on pure speculation, without any previous knowledge?—A. Well, there was not any fish there, because it proved there were not any there.

Q. You heard of one halibut?—A. Well, I might have.

Q. Who was the lucky fellow?—A. I did not say there was one. I might have heard of somebody catching a halibut. I can't say about that.

Q. Now, when you were prosecuting that branch of the fisheries, where were you accustomed to go?—A. To the George's Bank mostly ; some on Brown's Bank—that is off Cape Sable and on the Seal Island ground.

Q. There is a difference between Cape Sable and Sable Island?—A. Yes.

Q. I want to ask you whether you fished off Cape Sable or the island?—A. Cape Sable.

Q. I wish you would go to the map, because there is a little discrepancy between your statement and that of a gentleman here before.

(Witness goes with counsel to map.)

Q. (Pointing to Sable Island.) Was it near Sable Island?—A. No ; I never fished there. I fished at Seal Island and Tusket Light.

Q. Was it toward that direction?—A. I fished all the way around.

Q. Do you know a harbor there called Lobster Harbor?—A. I don't. I never was in there much.

Q. Perhaps you never tried in close around Cape Sable Island at all?—A. Never within eight or ten miles. Probably I have tried in eight or ten miles.

Q. You never tried in within three miles there for halibut?—A. No.

Q. Of course, then, you don't know about it. We have some evidence that there have been fish caught in there, and as you have never tried you won't, of course, contradict it?—A. No ; I will not.

Q. You don't know anything about it. Now, you submitted a statement, and I understand it to be not the result of an actual voyage, but just a statement made up out of your own head as to what you think would be the probable result of a voyage?—A. I have had a good many years' experience, and I take that as a supposed voyage. It is not an actual voyage.

Q. It is a mere fancy statement. I don't mean in any improper sense. It is not made as the result of any actual voyage. And you show a loss on the catch of 400 barrels of some \$325 to the charterer. Now, I remember when you were giving evidence and Mr. Foster asked you what number of barrels should be taken to make a fair and paying voyage, you happened to say the very same number which you show by this account to have resulted in a loss.—A. I said 400 or 500 barrels.

Q. You said 400 barrels, if I remember?—A. I didn't say 400 barrels, did I?

Q. I understood you so?—A. I think I said 400 or 500.

Q. I think you began by saying 400. Then you said generally from 400 to 500?—A. Well, between these two figures would be the number of barrels that would make a paying voyage.

Q. Now, if \$325 were lost upon 400 barrels caught, how do you reconcile the two statements?—A. It is made up by the charter of the vessel. My answer was on the vessel that was not chartered, but run by the owners ; and the result there shows that the owner did make some \$220.

Q. You mean to say the owner would make, whereas the charterer

would lose?—A. As a practical man of business I consider all these charges as charges that would be fair and just in making up the account. I make out that he would be a loser.

Q. That is if he chartered?—A. The party who owned the vessel would make money out of the charter.

Q. He would make the charter, whatever it was; he would make the value of the charter, less the wear and tear of the vessel, less interest and taxes. But do I understand you to say that the owner of a vessel sending her to the bay would make a fair profit on 400 or 500 barrels, whereas the charterer would lose? Then there must be some particular branch in which the owner makes a profit, which the charterer has no advantage of?—A. In that case I have given, if the owner ran the vessel himself on that voyage, and got 400 barrels, he would not be much of a loser. If he got an advance on that, and was the charterer himself, he would have something left out of the voyage.

Q. Must not he have the same expenses as a charterer would have?—A. Well, if he had an increased number of barrels he would make.

Q. But with the same number of barrels and these expenses he would not make anything?—A. He would get the interest on his money; he would earn that. The interest and taxes have gone into that account.

Q. Well, you prove conclusively by this account that a man who catches 400 barrels loses \$325.—A. If he is a charterer.

Q. And if he is the owner he makes; now, where does the difference lie?—A. If he is the owner he does not make.

Q. I will see, now, if I can solve that difficulty, although I am only a tyro in the business. You give certain charges here that are made against the voyage; 40 barrels of pogie bait, \$240, and 10 barrels of clams, \$80. That would have to be paid by the men who fitted her out. Expenses for barrels and packing 400, at \$1.75, \$700. Now, is there not a very fair profit made out of that branch of the business?—A. That is not in connection with the vessel; that is with the business.

Q. There is a handsome profit?—A. There is a profit.

Q. Could that business exist if the vessel didn't go on the voyage to bring the business?—A. Well, it is part of the business.

Q. Is it not a necessary incident which could not occur without the vessel going?—A. Of course you have to have the vessel to get the business.

Q. Then I understand you to agree that there is a handsome profit made upon that? And you have provisions, fuel, &c., for 16 men, four months, at 40 cents per day each, \$700. It struck me you put that very high. What provisions do you supply them?—A. I cannot give you all the items.

Q. How many barrels of flour, for instance?—A. Well, that is not my department, but we put aboard about 14 barrels of flour, 12 or 14.

Q. You were so many years in the gulf that you must have known how many barrels you were accustomed to take. You can give the Commission very near the exact quantity?—A. I can give you the quantity of large articles like flour and beef, but I could not give you the little articles.

Q. It struck me as being very high.—A. I would say in regard to that, that that is based on actual figures taken on our vessels year after year. We have made up accounts to see what it costs per man. We judge 40 cents is about what it costs a day for board.

Q. That forty cents a day is made up and based upon the prices which you charge the vessel for these goods?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there not a handsome profit made out of these?—A. We con-

sider if we have an outside vessel where the captain owns her himself that we make on this fitting about \$75.

Q. Do you know what percentage that is? It is 10 per cent.—A. Well, we make up his account and settle with the crew.

Q. I am not complaining that it is exorbitant. I think it is very reasonable and fair paying business. Now there are 120 barrels of Liverpool salt, \$120. Do you mean to say you pay \$1 a barrel for Liverpool salt in bond. (I understood you to say that was taken out of bond.) We can buy Liverpool salt in Prince Edward Island cheaper than that.—A. Well, your vessels fetch it out as ballast.

Q. But does Liverpool salt in bond cost \$1 a barrel?—A. Well, we take our salt. It is in the outside part of the town, in the storehouse. We have to send men to head it, and cooper it, and we have to pay for teaming it.

Q. You are explaining why you charge a profit upon it?—A. It is no profit. I am a dealer in salt, and import 50,000 hogsheads of salt. I think our Liverpool salt sells at \$1.75 a hogshead.

Q. To whom?—A. Any dealers that wish to purchase.

Q. How many barrels to a hogshead?—A. We usually get down here two barrels.

Q. Is that all?—A. That is what we get. When we sell it, we call it three and a half bushels to a barrel.

Q. You charge the vessel about 15 cents more than the price?—A. We charge the vessel no profit on the salt. The vessel has to pay the extra charges there will be for cooperage, teaming it, and taking it to the vessel where she lies, and taking it in.

Q. Then you charge in addition to these things for the charter of the vessel \$1,000, and then you charge insurance on the charter and outfits. You charge insurance upon the provisions you supply to the men. Do you, as a matter of fact, insure them?—A. Any man that charters that vessel has an insurable interest there. Any careful man will insure that interest he has there. There is nothing there that any business man would not call an insurable interest.

Q. What insurable interest have you in it?—A. I have no insurable interest. It is the man who has chartered her that has insured her. I think there are a good many things I haven't charged.

Q. Now, you have skippership or master's commission on net stock, \$3,780, at 4 per cent., \$151.20; and you make the total expense amount, without interest, \$2,215.40. It is a very curious result. You think that is correct?—A. In my best judgment, that would be as fair as I could make it.

Q. I picked up a paper here on the table when you were giving your evidence, the Commercial Bulletin of Boston. That is well recognized as a commercial paper of standing, I believe. Now, in looking at the prices which you allowed this vessel for her mackerel, I find you are very much below the market prices quoted here. This is the extract; I will read it: "Prince Edward Island Number ones (I see that they specially quote the Prince Edward Island Number ones), from \$18 to \$19. Large Number twos \$17 to \$18; twos \$12 to \$14. Large Number threes \$9 to \$10. Medium threes \$9 to \$10. Now I have taken your prices. You give \$16 for the \$19 that they give. Where they quote \$18 you give \$10. Where they quote \$9 to \$10 for medium threes you give \$6.—A. I have based that on the fish that were actually sold and were bought by Benjamin A. Baker. The prices he paid were these stated in that account.

Q. That cannot be extra mackerel?—A. Extra mackerel, mess mackerel, if a man had any, would be larger.

Q. Well, I understand that is a theoretical statement, and I want to test it in one or two ways. Now, if I take the prices as quoted in the extract I have read, I find they would make a difference of \$1,325 in favor of the charterer; or, deducting the loss which you state of \$325, there would be left a clear profit of \$1,000, taking the Boston prices as quoted.—A. In my account I take the Gloucester rates, the wholesale Gloucester rates—actual sales which occurred at the time I came here, and which I can verify.

Q. What I say is, that if I made up the figures at these prices quoted, not the highest, but the average—for instance, instead of taking the large No. 2's at \$18, I leave them out altogether and take the small ones at \$14, and for the 3's I take the medium quality, not the highest—in this way allowing every charge that you put against the vessel, I have a clear profit of \$1,000.—A. I have taken a trip of mackerel as I know they packed out. I would like to say one word more. There is a difference between the grades in different towns. One town will have a grade that will fetch more than another, and the brand does not guarantee that the quality is there. I don't know about Prince Edward Island. The grade may be very much higher, and the price may be much higher. I have taken the actual value as the fish sold.

Q. But this is your State inspection?—A. That paper does not say so.

Q. It says Prince Edward Island No. 1's. There is no inspection there at all.—A. That is the name of the mackerel. They are inspected there.

Q. No; they are not. Are not all mackerel that go into the United States inspected? Haven't they to submit to inspection by an officer of the State?—A. I think the buyers inspect them.

Q. Don't you know that they are all inspected by some official there?—A. I suppose they are. The buyers reinspect them.

Q. You are brought here as a man having an extensive acquaintance with this matter, dealing largely in fish, and owning vessels. Do you mean to say you don't know whether the mess-mackerel imported into the United States are inspected by an official of the United States?—A. I never had any knowledge as to the mackerel from the provinces.

Q. Do I understand that I could send mackerel in from the provinces and put them on the market without having an inspection at all?—A. I don't know anything about it.

Q. How did you do with the mackerel you got here; was there not an inspector of fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he not inspect them under a State law?—A. Yes.

Q. Are you not compelled to submit to that?—A. We do.

Q. Have you any doubt that that applies to all mackerel?—A. I suppose it does. I don't know what international law there may be with regard to it. There may be an international law that the fish, being admitted free of duty, are admitted without inspection. I know nothing about that.

Q. Now, we have had witnesses here to state positively, as I understood, that the mackerel which came from the bay and the mackerel which came from your shores were assorted and branded, and the same brands put upon both by the State inspector. I may be wrong, but I understood the evidence in that way.—A. I don't know that I understand you. Do you say that all qualities were branded alike?

Q. No; but that the mackerel are taken and assorted and marked

and sent out with the official stamp as Nos. 1, 2, and 3.—A. That's my custom.

Q. I am not speaking of a custom but of a law to which you have to submit.—A. I would say here that mackerel coming from the State of Maine are not reinspected; they are landed in our town from Portland.

Q. Are they not inspected in the State of Maine?—A. They are, but, I think, not under any State law.

Q. Do you know?—A. I don't know how it is this year, for sometimes they have a State law and sometimes they haven't.

Q. The mackerel imported into Maine are governed by the laws of Maine, and I suppose they haven't to submit to another inspection, but I am speaking of foreign mackerel. Do you mean to say there is one State law for Gloucester and another for Boston?—A. I know mackerel are landed by us and we have to make returns to the inspector. In some cases of mackerel coming from the State of Maine we don't.

Q. Of course not; you don't want to have them inspected twice?—A. But I don't know how it applies to provincial mackerel. I never handled any.

Q. I will just repeat the question. Do you mean to tell us now, seriously—you have been in business all the semany years, engaged very largely in the business—do you mean to say that you really don't know whether there is a State law requiring the inspection of foreign fish imported into Massachusetts?—A. I don't know; I never investigated it.

Q. You have never dealt with those who catch these fish—with provincial dealers?—A. I never did.

Q. You never made the slightest inquiry?—A. I never inquired.

Q. Now, if you went into the market to-morrow, would you buy fish without the inspector's mark?—A. I would buy them at the quality they were by looking at them.

Q. Would you, without their having the inspector's mark?—A. I would if the quality suited.

Q. Could you sell them without having them inspected? Would you not be breaking the law?—A. I could sell them anywhere in the State without being inspected; but I could not send them out of the State.

Q. Then there is no necessity for inspection at all?—A. Not in the State of Massachusetts.

Q. Then, when you import your mackerel, you are not compelled to have them inspected?—A. I have, in order to send them out of the State.

Q. If you don't intend to send them out of the State?—A. I can sell them to my neighbors or any one around me by the cargo without inspection.

Q. Well, can he put those mackerel into the market and sell them to the person who consumes them, or to a trader to retail them; can that be done without inspection?—A. I think they have to be inspected.

Q. Don't you know? Have you any doubt at all?—A. No; you asked me if I could sell them; I say I can.

Q. I am asking you for full information, not as to the means by which the law can be evaded. Do you believe there is a different law regulating the inspection of fish in Boston from that which regulates it in Gloucester?—A. I believe there is not. But I would say in regard to inspection that I have sold hundreds of barrels every year without inspection. I sold two cargoes this year without inspection.

Q. How much have you to pay for inspection?—A. Two cents to the general inspector.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. That does not answer the whole question. How much does inspection cost you?—A. We receive ten cents a barrel for inspection from the purchaser.

Q. Of which two cents go where?—A. To the general inspector.

Q. Where do the other eight cents go?—A. To the deputy.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. There are no means of evading the payment of that 10 cents?—A. No.

Q. Are you an inspector?—A. I am. Every man is to a certain extent. I receive 8 cents.

Q. You are paid so much for inspecting the fish?—A. I am paid by the charterer.

Q. And you inspect your own fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Does the general inspector oversee it?—A. He is supposed to.

Q. You are an inspector of fish in that State, and don't know what the law is?—A. Our Massachusetts law? I know the Massachusetts law in regard to the fish I inspect. I don't know how it applies to fish coming from other States.

Q. Did you ever read the law?—A. I have read it frequently.

Q. Does it not apply to the whole State?—A. It does, but I don't know how it is as to fish imported from the provinces.

Q. What did you mean by telling me you did not know what the Boston law was?—A. I did not say that.

Q. What did you say with reference to inspection in the Boston market?—A. I said—I don't know just what the words were. We have had considerable talk on this inspection business. I don't know what you refer to.

Q. I am satisfied I reported you correctly?—A. I say it is just the same as it is with us as far as our home fish is concerned. I don't know as to Prince Edward Island mackerel, whether they are subject to inspection or not.

Q. Is it subject to inspection in Gloucester?—A. I have no knowledge whether it would be liable to be reinspected or not—mackerel that has once been inspected.

Q. I am speaking about foreign mackerel imported, which has not been inspected.—A. I think all mackerel that has not been inspected would have to be inspected.

Q. Therefore Prince Edward Island fish would have to be inspected?—A. Prince Edward Island mackerel are branded such and such a brand. It is inspected.

Q. Where?—A. In Prince Edward Island.

Q. How do you know?—A. Because your paper gives them as such.

Q. No such thing.—A. I have seen them branded as No. ones. I take it for granted they were No. ones, because they were branded.

Q. Would you as inspector take it for granted and not inspect them if you saw a vessel land them?—A. I should take it for granted they were.

Q. And not inspect them?—A. Without inspection.

Q. And would you not charge your fee?—A. I should not charge a fee if I did not inspect them.

Q. Is that your practice?—A. I have never had them.

Mr. FOSTER (to Mr. Davies). Do you state as a fact that there is no official inspection in Prince Edward Island?

Mr. DAVIES. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. How is it in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton?

Mr. DAVIES. I don't know; I believe there is in Halifax.

Q. Now, one moment more. You say yourself you are in a pretty good position as the result of your fishing business?—A. I don't know that I said that.

Q. Well, I will ask you. At the time you ceased your fishing in 1864 you went into business. Then you must have had some capital?—A. Well, I had some.

Q. Sufficient to justify you in entering into business?—A. Well, they have said I have done as well as any one, or better.

Q. And you made money?—A. I had accumulated considerable.

Q. Give us an idea.—A. I had some thousands.

Q. Now this statement of the result of a catch of 400 shows a loss. I find, however, that your average catch, although you have been the largest in the bay, has only been 469, or between four and five hundred during the whole time. So your average catch during that period has only been about the number of barrels which you say would result in a loss?—A. I was the owner, which would make some difference. I don't know that it is shown I did make a fortune in the bay.

Q. I take your statement as you gave it, that you had considerable.—A. I never said that.

Q. You said that you had enough to justify you in going into business.—A. I should not have gone into business if I had not thought I had enough.

Q. Now I ask you this: Can you produce instead of this a statement copied from your books showing what your vessels actually did?—A. I can; not to-day, because I have not the books with me. I would say, however, my business was various. I was employed in a number of different branches of trade all those years.

Q. And incidentally the business connected with fishing is a profitable one I believe, is it not, to those engaged in it; I mean supplying vessels?—A. In some instances.

Q. As a general rule?—A. Well, there is a profit in the business.

Q. It gives employment to a large number of hands?—A. Yes; four or five men to a concern.

Q. It is in point of fact the staple business of Gloucester?—A. Cod-fishery.

Q. The fishery business?—A. Well, that is the main business.

Q. I see by the returns that two-thirds of the whole are codfish and one-third mackerel.—A. To the town?

Q. Of the whole fishing business of the town?—A. It has varied in different years.

Q. The business gives employment to a large number of hands?—A. Yes.

Q. Upon it, to a very large extent, the prosperity of Gloucester depends?—A. I should say it did—to the fisheries.

Q. I find a Gloucester paper of August 31 comments on this very fact. I want to see whether you agree with it or not. It was written at the time when the shore fishery threatened to be a failure. The Cape Ann Advertiser says:

What shall we do if the mackerel fleet do not get good fares, is now the query in many minds. The failure thus far makes money positively a scarce article in this community, where usually at this season there are comparatively flush times. The proceeds of a hundred thousand barrels of mackerel scattered through a community like this of ours give all classes a share, and this it is which we depend upon to keep business lively, pay up bills, and the like. There is a chance yet to catch them, but it will be lively work to make up a season's work now, unless the mackerel strike in in

large numbers, and the fleet are right on the spot to take advantage of it. Nothing that we know of in the way of good news, in a business point of view, would be more welcome at the present writing than the intelligence that the Gloucester mackerel fleet were coming in with "heavy decks." It would enliven everybody, and the fact would insure provisions and fuel for the coming winter to many a family who are now very anxious as to where their supplies are to come from.

Does that contain the substantial facts or not?—A. I should say that if 200 sail of vessels prosecute that business, and go to sea and get no fish, the people do not get any meat or bread.

Q. There are a large number of people dependent on the success of that enterprise?—A. Yes; on all the business; that is one of the main portions of the business.

Q. You have said that lately the catch on your coast was better?—A. It has been better during five or six years.

Q. Here is a paper of October 6, and I find, under the head of "Boston Fish Market," the following:

Mackerel are arriving in sufficient supply from the provinces to meet all demands. Good fish are most in demand, at full prices. Our home shore fleet is now near at hand on the Middle Bank. It is probably the largest that has been together this season, over 300 sail. The first of the week they took a few fish with hooks, of better size and quality, but during the past three days they have done nothing.

Q. Do you know of that? It refers to three days preceding 6th October.—A. I had vessels going—though I was not out fishing and could not tell personally—and I know they came in with very fair trips. That is the only knowledge I have.

Q. The editor of the Commercial Bulletin generally picks up his information from those best qualified to give it?—A. I don't know where he picks it up. He did not come to me for any.

Q. You are not the sole depositary of information, I suppose?—A. I could have given him some information about it. I could have spoken of my own experience. The David Lowe, the day before I came away, brought in 150 barrels, which had been caught two miles off the coast, and one-third of them were 1's. That was one item, which does not appear there, that I would have given him if he had called upon me.

Q. Could you tell whether any fish was caught during the three days preceding 6th October?—A. I could not tell.

Q. Mr. Foster asked you a question about blackmailing American fishing vessels on the part of the officers of the navy. Do you know anything about the vessels?—A. I never had any personal knowledge.

Q. You have no reason to know it, except from common report?—A. No.

Q. Which may or may not be true?—A. Yes.

Q. Were any of your vessels ever blackmailed in that way?—A. Not to my knowledge. It was the common report that Captain Derby took 20 barrels of mackerel from one vessel.

Q. In 1866 you were not fishing?—A. No.

Q. Nor in 1867 or 1868?—A. Not since 1864.

Q. You took out licenses?—A. Yes.

Q. During two years you took out licenses, and the crew had to pay half the fees?—A. It was made a stock charge. I am not positive about it, but I believe so. I would direct it to be done so, if I was there.

Q. They would therefore judge whether it was best to take out license or not?—A. Yes; I suppose so.

Q. In 1868 your five vessels took only 625 barrels, and that year you did not take out a license?—A. Yes.

Q. May not that account for the very small catch?—A. If the captains of those vessels had deemed it of great importance they would

have taken out licenses if the fish had been somewhere where they could not take them without a license.

Q. They could not go inside to try?—A. Others could, and they would know it, for it would be reported to them. If they knew the fish were within the 3-mile limit, it would only have taken the vessel one day to have got a license, and on board of the cutters themselves licenses could be obtained.

Q. You have said you did not take out licenses in 1868 because the price had gone up?—A. Yes.

Q. That was the reason?—A. Yes.

Q. It had nothing to do with the fish taken?—A. You asked me if that was not the reason why they did not get more mackerel. If they could have got mackerel in large quantities in that prohibited ground by taking out licenses, I know that, though I had given directions not to take licenses, they would have taken them.

Q. Did you give directions not to take licenses?—A. I did, I think.

Q. You gave the captains directions not to take out licenses?—A. I think the matter was talked of, and it was considered that it would not pay, as the expense was too large.

Q. You gave instructions not to take licenses?—A. I think so. I don't remember exactly.

Q. And the five vessels took 625 barrels?—A. Those are the actual figures taken from the books.

Q. Can you tell me, from the comparative statement of the bay and shore trips, which you have given in, what is the length of time occupied on the bay and shore trips, respectively?—A. The shore trip comprises the season for that vessel, though the catch is taken on different trips, occupying different lengths of time.

Q. You are instituting a comparison between trips made in the bay and off the shore, and unless we know the times occupied by the vessels, no comparisons can be made?—A. The vessels would average about four months or so each. The shore vessels land several trips each, while the bay vessels only make two fares.

Q. The shore vessels fish from early spring till fall?—A. Perhaps a part of the fleet went out on 1st June. I don't know that we had any go south in May, but we may have had one or two early in June.

Q. And from then till November?—A. Yes.

Q. They fish late there?—A. About the same time as in the bay; sometimes a week later, but it depends on the weather.

Q. You think the mackerel are about as late in the bay as on your own coast?—A. If the weather permitted. There may be a week or ten days' difference—ten days, I should say.

Q. That opinion is different from what we have heard from some of the other witnesses?—A. I say perhaps ten days if there is fair weather. Usually, after October, it is very boisterous, and our vessels don't get much chance of fishing, and come away. There are often mackerel there, but there is not much chance to catch them. I have often found mackerel there later than many of the vessels stay, but I had no chance to catch them.

Q. You cannot tell me the exact time the vessels were occupied in catching the trips?—A. Not the exact time.

Q. Are the mackerel you catch on your shore classed No. 3's along in the spring?—A. They are mostly always threes till the middle of June. Along about then they begin to get some fat on them, but not much.

Q. They don't go beyond No. 3's?—A. We get some 2's.

Q. Any proportion?—A. Not a large quantity.

Q. I see the prices you have got for bay mackerel are very much larger than that which you got for shore mackerel. For instance, take 1868, you got \$16 a barrel for bay and \$11.87 for shore mackerel?—A. The bay mackerel of that year, or the mackerel caught at the Magdalen Islands, were all very large and heavy, and the average was very much higher because there were no poor or small mackerel among them. In the shore catch of that year many of the mackerel were caught early, large quantities in June and July, which made the average lower.

Q. You don't know that, because you were not fishing in 1868?—A. I know that from the reports of my captains.

Q. The next year the discrepancy is still greater. In 1869 you got for bay \$16 and for shore \$8.75, only about one-half. Is that on account of your catching 3's on your own coast and large mackerel in the bay?—A. No; not always. When our vessels went into the bay they got many No. 1's, and along our shore they caught smaller mackerel.

Q. I don't mean to say that No. 1's are taken round Cape Breton or Prince Edward Island, but I mean round at the Magdalen Islands did they happen to be No. 1's?—A. You may take that year or a series of years, they are always better there.

Q. Take 1870. You got for your bay mackerel \$13 and for shore \$8.81?—A. It is very true.

Q. That must show that the mackerel caught on your shores are inferior to those got in the bay?—A. Not always.

Q. As a rule?—A. As a rule, I don't know that they are.

Q. Is it not so, according to your experience?—A. The experience of our vessels and the mackerel they land proves that, on an average, No. 1 shore mackerel was higher than bay. When bay was \$18 shore was \$22.

Q. For Block Island mackerel?—A. No; for mackerel caught off our coast.

Q. I am speaking of the prices you got yourself. I will take the last two years?—A. Take this year.

Q. I have not a return of this year here. In 1875 you got \$11.33 for bay and \$9.81 for shore. In 1876, \$10.20 for bay and \$5.80 for shore, nearly double the price for bay. It is a very curious thing that if the bay mackerel are not better you should get double the price. What is the reason?—A. No. 1 mackerel caught here are no better than those caught there. Our vessels went in the bay later in the year, and consequently their mackerel averaged a higher price. They went in at the season when the mackerel were best. The vessels on our shore fished in the early part of the season and caught poor mackerel, which makes their average lower.

Q. I understand that you did not catch mackerel around Seven Islands or the shores of the river St. Lawrence during your actual fishing operations?—A. I never caught any of any account.

Q. Have you been up there and tried to fish?—A. I have been up around Bonaventure Island and along that shore.

Q. Did you ever fish at Seven Islands?—A. I was there once.

Q. Did you try to fish there?—A. I suppose we did try.

Q. How close to the shore did you try?—A. When I tried there I don't know that I caught any fish, or that I threw bait; I was there for that purpose. We tried close to the shore.

Q. How close; within half a mile or a mile?—A. Within half a mile.

Q. And the fish taken there are taken that distance from shore?—A. I heard reports that mackerel were there, but I found none there.

Q. Did you ever fish round Bonaventure?—A. I never caught any there.

Q. You never tried there much?—A. No.

Q. And I believe you tried only once in Bay Chaleurs?—A. I caught on one trip 50 barrels in Bay Chaleurs.

Q. Where was those taken?—A. Somewhere off Paspébiac.

Q. Upon the south side of Bay Chaleurs?—A. On the north side.

Q. You went in within three miles of the shore?—A. I don't know. I was out in the bay; I don't know where.

Q. You said at first you were not within three miles of the shore.—A. I don't know what distance I was from land; I was out in the middle of the bay. I don't know whether we were within the three-mile limit or not. I don't know whether the bay at that point was ten miles wide; it might be six. I don't know and I had no reason to care whether I was within the three-mile limit or not. It was in 1856, I think, during the Reciprocity Treaty.

Q. The chances are, then, that you went inside?—A. I don't know about that. I went where the fish were.

Q. Did you make Bay Chaleurs a resort?—A. I never was there much. I was there sometimes for a harbor.

Q. And when you were in for a harbor, you did not try to fish there?—A. I did not try to fish there; I have seen others try.

Q. Did you fish down the west shore of New Brunswick much?—A. I have fished there.

Q. Within three miles of shore?—A. No.

Q. I think around Prince Edward Island you never fished within three miles of shore?—A. Not much around the island.

Q. Round Cape Breton you fished every fall, more or less?—A. Mostly every fall, more or less; late in the fall.

Q. And you caught mackerel off Margaree, sometimes one mile and sometimes three or four miles off?—A. Yes.

Q. And every fall you got more or less off Cape Breton shore?—A. A small portion I caught there. I might have caught in all my picking perhaps one-tenth of all my mackerel there. One year, I think, the last year I was there, I caught from 75 to 100 barrels there.

Q. I think you said you could not recollect what proportion?—A. I cannot tell positively; I should judge I caught that proportion. I have no record.

Q. You have no record and it is fourteen years since you were there. Have you heard from the captains of your vessels whether the habits of the fish of late years have changed, and that they are now found nearer the shore than they used to be?—A. I have not heard that.

Q. Have you not heard it at all in any way?—A. I never heard that the fish had changed their localities.

Q. Have you ever heard in any way of late years that the fish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence are found closer to the shores than they used to be?—A. I have not. I have two vessels there and I hear from them every week. They have not found any near the shore, or anywhere else.

Q. Some years you say you caught your fish everywhere and you did not make any large catch?—A. One year we had a very hard season. We were fishing all over the bay.

Q. Did you ever see a large fleet down at Port Hood?—A. Yes.

Q. How many American vessels have you seen there?—A. I never counted them. I should think I have seen 200 sail; perhaps 150.

Q. They would be there on the same mission as you?—A. They usually come there when bound home; they stop there.

Q. For the fall fishing?—A. Yes, for the end of the trip. They don't fish round Port Hood. When they come there with an easterly gale, they sometimes go off on Fisherman's Bank, and sometimes across to the Magdalen Islands.

Q. I notice you fishermen always state that the fish are taken off Banks; are the waters on those Banks shallower than the general waters of the gulf?—A. It is all fishing-ground on Fisherman's Bank.

Q. I take it that at Fisherman's Bank the water is shallower than that surrounding it?—A. I suppose that Bank implies there is shallower water there than that surrounding it.

Q. I want to know from you as a practical man if that is so?—A. Yes; there is always shallower water on Banks.

Q. On Banks Bradley and Orphan; are we to understand the water is shallower there?—A. When you come to Bank Orphan you find different depths of water from 40 to 300 fathoms. It is deep water down in the gulf and we don't look for mackerel in deep water. We always look for fish off soundings.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. You said you did not know of any market for mackerel except the Gloucester market?—A. Not any more than what I ship west in small quantities.

Q. Gloucester has become a great distributing center?—A. Yes, it is considered so.

Q. All the mackerel that comes into Gloucester, almost all, comes in American vessels, does it not?—A. I don't know of any other.

Q. Do you have any mackerel imported into Gloucester that is imported from the provinces and not in American vessels?—A. I don't know of any.

Q. All the imported mackerel comes to Boston?—A. I think invariably.

Q. Do you know any mackerel by the name of Prince Edward Island mackerel?—A. Nothing more than that I have seen it in print and on the wharves at Boston.

Q. You have seen it branded in that way?—A. Yes.

Q. And have you seen other barrels branded Nova Scotia and Halifax?—A. I think I have; Halifax mackerel and herring.

Q. But whether the Prince Edward Island mackerel is mackerel that is sold before it is inspected in the United States or not, you don't know?—A. I have no practical knowledge of it.

Q. Can you tell what reinspection of mackerel means?—A. I will tell you the practical part of reinspection. Mr. Franklin Snow has 1,000 barrels of island mackerel branded No. 2's and 1's. He takes those mackerel in his warehouse and reasorts them. Of the No. 2's he makes one-half No. 1's, and out of the No. 1's he makes one-half extras, and those extras are sold at \$18 and \$19, and No. 1's at \$16, the prices I quoted.

Q. Is the insurance of outfit a common practice at Gloucester?—A. It is.

Q. In regard to Liverpool salt—you stated that the actual cost to the importer, out of bond, would be 87½ cents a barrel?—A. To the buyer from the importer.

Q. And that is in a bonded warehouse, some distance from your wharf?—A. Some half mile or so.

Q. And for the handling of it, teaming it, getting it on board the vessel, and for coopering, you have allowed 12½ cents a barrel?—A. I have allowed an amount that would cover the expense. The teaming is 10 cents a barrel.

Q. That is leaving $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents a barrel for coopering and putting on board of your schooner?—A. Yes.

Q. The profit on packing out a barrel of mackerel, including all expenses—what would it amount to, in your judgment? How much would a man get, clear of what he pays out?—A. I think from 10 cents to 15 cents a barrel, outside of the inspection. The inspection fee he receives from the purchaser, and it is 10 cents a barrel more.

Q. Out of that inspection fee 8 cents go to the deputy inspector?—A. That comes out of the consumer, I guess.

Q. Of the fee the deputy inspector gets 8 cents and the inspector-general 2 cents, and he appoints almost any one who will give him the requisite bonds and pay him the 2 cents a barrel. The deputy inspector is responsible for the quality of the mackerel?—A. He is responsible to the purchaser.

Q. And he is liable, and his bonds are liable, for any deficiency?—A. The general inspector is really the party who is responsible, and he looks to his deputy. If the purchaser thinks the fish are not what they should be, he calls on the inspector-general, and he calls on his deputy and compels him to make it good or looks to his bonds to do so.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. How does the inspector-general know what barrels each deputy has inspected?—A. The deputy has his name in full on the brand.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. The inspection mark guarantees that the contents of the cask or barrel shall be up to a certain legal standard?—A. A certain number of pounds have to be there, and the fitness of the mackerel is all in the judgment of the men who select the mackerel, and if the purchaser objects to them, as being not what they should be, it has to be left to a jury of inspectors to decide whether they are of the standard fitted for the brand.

Q. You estimate that 40 cents a day is the cost of provisioning each man in a crew?—A. We base that on actual statistics.

Q. For what purpose were the statistics prepared?—A. For centennial purposes, by the different firms. The firms took their books and got out amounts, and we found that 40 cents a day would simply pay.

Q. You were asked if it was not a supposed voyage of which you have given an account?—A. That was a supposed voyage.

Q. No vessel has come back from the gulf with 400 barrels of mackerel this year?—A. No one has brought back any such quantity.

Q. That is a larger quantity than is supposed than has come back from the gulf this year?—A. I heard that the Gertie E. Foster, two days before I came away, had arrived with 300 barrels. I don't know the quantity packed out.

Q. And in regard to the price at which the mackerel is supposed to be sold?—A. The price of mackerel is the market price the day I left—what the trips were sold for.

Q. On what day did you leave?—A. Friday, 5th.

Q. So, whether between the 3d and 6th mackerel were caught—you could not be very positive?—A. I could not tell. I know the day I came away one vessel got a good haul.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. What are the names of your vessels in the bay?—A. Margie Smith is one.

Q. Is the Etta Gott the other?—A. Yes; she has made one trip this year.

Q. How many barrels did she get?—A. 220 barrels.

Q. She is on her second trip now?—A. She is out on the second trip at Canso.

Q. What has she taken on the second trip?—A. I have heard she was out in a gale of wind, and they had not seen any fish since the gale. The other vessel has got 60 barrels.

Q. The A. J. Franklin, which was seized on 15th October, 1870, for fishing within three miles of the shore, and condemned, was one of your vessels?—A. She was not seized while I was a member of the firm.

No. 57.

GILMAN S. WILLIAMS, of Gloucester, Mass., police officer, and formerly fisherman and master mariner, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. You belong to Gloucester and have lived there?—Answer. I have lived there 21 or 22 years.

Q. You went into the gulf, as a fisherman, in 1859, I believe?—A. I did.

Q. How many years in succession were you in the gulf as a fisherman?—A. I was ten years in succession in the gulf.

Q. From 1859 to 1869?—A. Yes.

Q. During that time, excepting about the last three years, you were under the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. Yes.

Q. And you had the right to go where you pleased?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you make a trial of the inshore fishery?—A. I have tried inshore.

Q. During those 6 or 7 years, when you had the whole gulf free to you, how did you find the inshore fishing as compared with the outside fishing; that is the fishing within 3 miles of the shore and the fishing outside, and on the Banks and elsewhere?—A. I caught but very few inshore.

Q. How many did you catch altogether in 1859?—A. About 240 barrels; I cannot say positively as to the quantity in that case.

Q. Were any of those caught inside of three miles from shore?—A. There might have been a few, a very few.

Q. Of the 240 barrels, how many might have been caught inside?—A. Perhaps 15 barrels.

Q. Take the whole time, from 1859 to 1869, when you gave up the regular gulf fishing; what proportion of your fish was caught within the three-mile line?—A. I should say less than one-tenth.

Q. In 1866, I think, the Reciprocity Treaty expired. Did you then take out a license?—A. I did.

Q. Do you remember whether you took out a license in 1867?—A. I think not.

Q. That is your impression?—A. That is my impression. I am not certain either way.

Q. You were in the bay in 1868 and 1869. Had you licenses those two years?—A. No.

Q. 1869, the last year—you feel sure about it for that year?—A. I had none then.

Q. In 1870 where did you fish?—A. I was on the Banks, cod-fishing.

Q. In 1871 were you on the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. 1872 were you cod-fishing again?—A. Yes.

Q. 1873—what did you do that year?—A. I was mackereling part of the time.

Q. Did you go cod-fishing in spring?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you went into the bay for mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you had the freedom of all the shores?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you recollect what your catch in the bay was?—A. 350 barrels, I think.

Q. In 1874 did you again go cod-fishing in spring and mackereling in the latter part of summer and autumn?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1875 did you go cod-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. And mackereling?—A. Yes; late in the fall.

Q. How many mackerel did you take?—A. About 80 barrels, I think.

Q. 1875 was your last year?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you since been in the fishing business at all?—A. No.

Q. Taking all those years together, was the business profitable to you?—A. I have just made a living—nothing more.

Q. You caught fish enough to enable you to keep fishing?—A. Yes. I had to keep fishing summer and winter.

Q. Taking your experience, has the mackerel fishery in the gulf increased or decreased?—A. According to my experience it has decreased.

Q. And from what you know of the business at Gloucester, has it decreased?—A. Yes.

Q. Which has been most valuable, in your experience, cod or mackerel fishing? Cod-fishing in spring or mackerel fishing at the latter part of the summer and the autumn, which is the best part of the year for it?—A. I have made much more cod-fishing than mackereling.

Q. And from what you know of what is going on generally in Gloucester, what do you think the relative profit between mackereling in the gulf and cod-fishing?—A. The general report among the fishermen at Gloucester is that they do best cod-fishing.

Q. When you have been cod-fishing, have you fished with salt bait or fresh bait or both?—A. I have fished with both, mostly with fresh bait.

Q. From your experience of both kinds of bait, salt and fresh, I suppose there is no doubt that fresh bait will draw fish quicker than salt bait?—A. Yes.

Q. As a commercial enterprise, either as owner of a vessel or one of the crew, which would be the more profitable, to use salt altogether and stay on the Banks, or to go into Newfoundland or elsewhere and keep themselves supplied with fresh bait?—A. If I was going again I would take salt bait.

Q. Taking not only your own experience but what you have heard from other people, do you think it would be more profitable to take salt bait and keep on the Banks or to run in for fresh bait?—A. I have heard quite a number of masters say they would never go in for fresh bait at all, but would take salt bait.

Q. What are the objections to going in for fresh bait?—A. There are several objections. A great deal of time is occupied in getting it. They charge a very high price for ice to save the bait with in many cases. There is a great deal of difficulty with the crew getting drunk and disorderly and not attending to their business.

Q. As to the licenses. You said you took a license one year for certain, perhaps more; but you are not confident about that, for you have not examined into it. For what reason did you take a license when you did take it? You say that though you have been there a great many

years, you found little benefit from the inshore fishing, that it does not amount to much. The first year you took out a license what was your motive?—A. I took it out to protect myself from the risk of my not knowing where the three-mile line was.

Q. Why could you not know?—A. Well, if a cutter overhauled me the commander would decide instead of me. He would not allow me to have any voice about it.

Q. Was there any question as to how the lines were to be run?—A. It was a matter I did not understand. It was a matter of dispute. Some said the line ran from headland to headland, and others said it did not. I did not know how the cutters might decide on that.

Q. You had heard that different claims were made?—A. I had heard that different claims were made, and that there were disputes.

Q. Except because of the disputes that might arise as to your being three or five miles or more out, or as to the manner in which the line was to be run; as to the mere value of the fish to be caught, would you have given anything for the license?—A. But very little, if anything.

Q. How much would you have given?—A. A very small sum.

Q. Not as much as was charged?—A. No.

Q. Which would be most profitable to you as a fisherman or dealer in fish, to have the duty of \$2 a barrel on again and be excluded from the three-mile limit, or to be admitted to within the three miles and have the duty off?—A. If I was going fishing again I would prefer having a duty on and be excluded from the three miles.

Q. Suppose this three-mile line could have been marked to run, not from headland to headland, but to follow the indentations of the coast, by some mark as intelligible as a fence on shore is between one man's farm and another, so that no question would be involved, would you then give anything for the right to fish inside of that fence?—A. No.

Q. Do you know anything about the herring fishery off the coast of the United States?—A. I have often heard it spoken of, and I have seen herring brought into Gloucester many times.

Q. Does Gloucester export herring?—A. It does.

Q. To what places?—A. Gottenburg is one place. I have seen vessels employed catching herring off the coast of Massachusetts.

Q. When did you last see them?—A. The last time I saw them was on Saturday last.

Q. You left Boston on Saturday in the steamer?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you see the herring-vessels fishing?—A. Very near Boston light-house, in among some little islands called Brewsters.

Q. Perhaps the Graves?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you take the trouble to count the vessels?—A. I did.

Q. How many were there?—A. I counted 51; there may have been two or three more perhaps; 51 were within range.

Q. You are sure there were 51?—A. I am.

Q. Has it been the custom for some years past for Gloucester and other places to send small vessels to fish for herring off Boston and in the bay there?—A. It has been for several years.

Q. Do you know whether it is a profitable business?—A. I have frequently seen them after they have been gone two or three days, come back with their boats or vessels full.

Q. Do they always return to Gloucester, or do they sometimes run into Boston?—A. They often go into Boston; they go into both places.

Q. They land the herring fresh?—A. Yes; and sell them fresh sometimes.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. You commenced fishing in 1859 ?—A. Yes, as master of a vessel.

Q. Had you ever been in the gulf before that ?—A. Yes.

Q. How many years previous ?—A. One year.

Q. What year ?—A. Eighteen hundred and fifty-eight.

Q. How did you go there, as one of the crew ?—A. Yes.

Q. Had you any interest in the voyage except as one of the crew ?—A. No interest, other than in what I caught.

Q. Where did you fish then ?—A. At Magdalen Islands and Bank Orphan.

Q. Did you fish anywhere else ?—A. Those were about all the places where we caught the mackerel ; we may have tried some other places possibly.

Q. How many did you get that time ?—A. I think 258 barrels.

Q. Had you a license that year ?—A. I think not.

Q. Then you had a right to all the inshore fishing ?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you try first, at the Magdalen Islands or Bank Orphan ?—A. At Bank Orphan.

Q. You went through the Gut of Canso, I suppose ?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you run straight to Orphan Bank ?—A. From where ?

Q. Through from the Gulf of Canso ?—A. No.

Q. Where did you go to fish first ?—A. It would be a difficult thing to run straight with a vessel.

Q. Did you go direct from Canso ?—A. We went directly there, as fast as we could from the Strait of Canso to Bank Orphan.

Q. You went direct without fishing anywhere till you got to Orphan Bank ?—A. Yes.

Q. Where does it lie ?—A. To the southward of Bonaventure Island.

Q. You passed Prince Edward Island ?—A. Yes.

Q. And went away to the northward and westward ?—A. To the northward.

Q. Somewhat to the westward ?—A. No.

Q. Is it direct to the north ?—A. I cannot say to a point ; it is so, as near as I can recollect.

Q. I suppose you never heard of good fishing at Prince Edward Island ?—A. I may have heard of it.

Q. And yet your captain never staid to try any place at the island ?—A. We went to Bank Orphan.

Q. You passed by East Cape and North Cape ?—A. I don't know that we saw North Cape.

Q. You saw East Cape ?—A. I am not certain about it. I don't recollect that we saw it.

Q. Did you pass within sight of the island at all ?—A. Yes ; if it had been daylight we would have been in sight of it.

Q. Were you near enough to see the island ?—A. I don't recollect that I saw it.

Q. You went direct to Orphan Bank ?—A. Yes.

Q. How many mackerel did you catch on Orphan Bank ?—A. I cannot tell you positively, but I think one-half of the trip we took there.

Q. You got 240 barrels altogether ?—A. Yes, about that, as nigh as I can recollect ; I would not be positive of the exact amount.

Q. Why did you fix the amount at 240 barrels if you have no memorandum ?—A. It is as nigh as I can recollect.

Q. That is about 20 years ago. Have you no memorandum of it ?—

A. I think the vessel carried about 240 barrels, and she was full.

Q. Then you had a full cargo before you came home ?—A. Yes.

Q. At what time did you go into the bay?—A. I think in July.

Q. And came out when?—A. At the latter part of October, I think.

Q. Immediately after you got through fishing on Bank Orphan, did you go direct to the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you take the fish inshore or off shore there, within three miles of the shore or off?—A. I think both; partly off, more than three miles, and partly inside.

Q. Was the larger proportion taken inshore or off shore?—A. I cannot answer that.

Q. What was the farthest distance from the Magdalen Islands you fished?—A. Perhaps twelve or fourteen miles some of the time.

Q. How far off was the nearest?—A. We may have fished some within half a mile, perhaps; I cannot recollect exactly.

Q. Cannot you recollect that, when you can recollect the number of barrels you had?—A. No.

Q. Well, then, you got your full fare without having any occasion to try the inside waters at Prince Edward Island or the coast of Gaspé or in Bay Chaleurs?—A. We fished our full fare at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. You did not try within three miles along Prince Edward Island at all?—A. I think not.

Q. Neither did you try within three miles of the New Brunswick shore or along the Canada shore off Gaspé?—A. No.

Q. Did you try within three miles of Cape Breton shore?—A. Perhaps we did; I think we did.

Q. Surely you can recollect?—A. It is some time ago, and it is difficult for me to remember every place at which we might have hove to twenty years ago.

Q. Will you say you did or did not fish on the shore of Cape Breton?—A. We caught but very few mackerel anywhere within three miles.

Q. Did you fish within three miles of the shore at Cape Breton?—A. No.

Q. Did you fish anywhere within three miles of the shore, except at the Magdalen Islands?—A. No.

Q. Why did you say you might have caught a very few inshore. I am speaking of 1858 altogether. What did you mean by saying you caught a small quantity inshore?—A. I said we might have caught a very few.

Q. How is that possible if you did not fish within three miles?—A. I still say we caught nearly or quite all of our mackerel on Orphan Bank and at Magdalen Islands.

Q. You say you might have caught a small quantity inshore?—A. I said we might have caught a few near the shore of Cape Breton.

Q. Within three miles?—A. We might have caught a few within three miles of the shore of Cape Breton.

Q. Did you fish within three miles of the shore at Cape Breton, whether you caught any or not?—A. I am not able to say but what I caught one or two mackerel within three miles of Cape Breton shore.

Q. I ask you, did you in fact fish within three miles of Cape Breton shore?—A. I say we might have hove to near Cape Breton Island and caught a very few mackerel.

Q. Are you in doubt in your mind as to whether you fished within three miles of Cape Breton shore?—A. It is not possible for a man to recollect twenty years ago, whether he might have caught a very few mackerel or whether he did not catch any——

Q. Have you in your own mind any doubt as to whether you fished within three miles of Cape Breton shore?—A. I don't recollect.

Q. Have you any doubt? I don't ask you whether you recollect.—A. I have forgotten whether we caught one mackerel within three miles of Cape Breton shore that year or not.

Q. You are serious, that you don't know whether you did or did not?—A. Yes. I don't know whether we might have caught a few or might not, within three miles of Cape Breton shore.

No. 57.

THURSDAY, *October 11, 1877.*

The Conference met.

Cross-examination of Gilman S. Williams, of Gloucester, Mass., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, resumed.

By Mr. Thomson:

Question. When we adjourned yesterday we were speaking of the mackerel caught inside of three miles of the shore at Cape Breton—I suppose that was off Margaree, was it?—Answer. As I understood it, it referred to Margaree or thereabouts.

Q. That was in 1858. In 1859 you went into the bay and got 240 barrels—where did you fish then?—A. At Bank Orphan and Bank Bradley and Pigeon Hill grounds, the first trip.

Q. Did you make two trips in 1859?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you get 240 barrels each trip?—A. No.

Q. The aggregate of the two trips was 240 barrels?—A. In 1859—yes.

Q. Was it your own vessel?—A. I was master of the vessel and part owner.

Q. Where did you get that memorandum?—A. Out of the books of the firm which owned the vessels.

Q. You don't recollect yourself?—A. Not so well; not so accurately as to give the figures.

Q. If you had not gone to the books, could you have recollected at all as far back as 1859, 18 years ago?—A. Yes, but not so accurately.

Q. You could not recollect the number of barrels taken?—A. Not so nearly correct.

Q. Could you have recollected where you fished?—A. Yes.

Q. You went through the Gut of Canso?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you then go straight to Orphan Bank?—A. We went to the Magdalen Islands first.

Q. Without fishing anywhere?—A. Without fishing anywhere.

Q. Did you take a large proportion at Magdalen Islands?—A. We did not get any the first trip at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. About what time did you enter the gulf?—A. Early in July; I could not tell the exact date.

Q. Then you went where?—A. As soon as we came through the gut we went direct to the Magdalen Islands, where we stayed a very short time, and went on Bank Bradley.

Q. Did you get many there?—A. Yes; nearly the whole.*

Q. Where did you get the remainder?—A. On what I call Pigeon Hill ground.

Q. That is off Gaspé?—A. No.

Q. In Bay Chaleurs?—A. It is farther to the southward than Gaspé.

Q. That would be Bay Chaleurs?—A. No.

Q. That is about southward?—A. No.

Q. Did you take many at Pigeon Hill grounds?—A. I think about 75 barrels, to the best of my recollection.

Q. Did that fill the schooner?—A. Very nearly. We then worked a little to the eastward on to Bank Bradley again, and there made up our voyage.

Q. You had then got a full fare?—A. Yes.

Q. When fishing at what you call Pigeon Hill grounds, how near were you to the shore?—A. We were just in sight of Pigeon Hill on a clear day; if it was a thick day we could not see it.

Q. How far from the shore?—A. I should suppose twelve miles, to the best of my knowledge.

Q. Then upon that voyage you never were within three miles of the shore at all?—A. Not whilst fishing.

Q. You then went direct back to the States?—A. Yes; to Gloucester.

Q. You did not fish any at that time on the shores of Cape Breton or Margaree?—A. Not any that voyage.

Q. How many barrels did your schooner carry with a full cargo?—A. About 240 barrels is what we could carry conveniently.

Q. The next trip was made at what time?—A. We got back to Magdalen Islands at the last of September.

Q. How many did you get on that trip?—A. 85 barrels.

Q. Are those all you got?—A. Yes.

Q. Those quantities make 325 barrels for the season—not 240? On the first trip your schooner, which could carry about 240 barrels, got a full fare?—A. I meant to tell you that in both trips we got 240 barrels.

Q. Did you not tell me that you got a full cargo on your first trip?—A. Probably I did; if I did, I made a mistake.

Q. Then, on your first trip you did not get a full fare?—A. No.

Q. May I ask you why, not having got a full fare on either Bank Bradley or Pigeon Hill ground, you did not try Bank Orphan?—A. We did try as long as we were able to try, on account of the lateness of the season.

Q. I am speaking of the first trip?—A. I mean the first trip. We stayed as long as we had any provisions, it being late in the season.

Q. What do you call late in the season?—A. We had only got time to go home and get back again. As I have said, it was late in September before we returned for the second trip.

Q. You got short of provisions?—A. Yes.

Q. And without waiting to get a full cargo, being short of provisions, you proceeded home?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not think proper to try round the shores of Prince Edward Island?—A. We had not time for one reason.

Q. You had not time to try off Cape Breton?—A. No, not on the first trip.

Q. How many barrels did you take on the first trip?—A. About 130 barrels, to the best of my recollection.

Q. That was not by 110 barrels sufficient to make a full cargo?—A. No.

Q. Still you did not try within three miles anywhere, and that was at a time when you were not prohibited from coming within three miles of shore?—A. No; we could go anywhere.

Q. Was it not singular that you did not try within the three miles?—A. I had not been accustomed to fish within three miles of the land at that time.

Q. Take the next year, 1860. Did you go into the bay that year?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you fish then?—A. I fished that year, the first trip, on Bank Orphan and Bank Bradley, and nearly the same ground as the year previous.

Q. Except that the previous year you did not fish on Bank Orphan at all? You went straight from Canso to Magdalen Islands, and failing to find anything there, went to Bank Bradley, and from there to Pigeon Hill ground, and came back to Bank Bradley, and went home?—A. Those Banks are so nearly connected that we some days hardly know which we are on.

Q. Bank Orphan is a considerable distance to the north of Bank Bradley?—A. They are nearly connected in soundings and fishing.

Q. Don't you know perfectly well when you are fishing on Bank Bradley and Bank Orphan?—A. Yes, if the weather is clear, so that we can see anything. We generally go here and there on various places between those Banks, wherever we think we can get fish.

Q. You don't know whether in 1859 you fished on Bank Orphan or not?—A. I think we did.

Q. In 1860 you fished on Banks Orphan and Bradley?—A. And Pigeon Hill ground.

Q. Did you go to the Magdalen Islands?—A. Not the first trip.

Q. How many barrels did you get on the second trip?—A. That was in 1860. We got 225 barrels the first trip.

Q. What would have been a full fare?—A. About 250 barrels.

Q. And you took 240?—A. Two hundred and twenty-five.

Q. During that time you did not fish anywhere along the coast of Prince Edward Island?—A. No.

Q. Did you go into the Bay Chaleurs?—A. No.

Q. Or to Gaspé?—A. No.

Q. You did not go within three miles of the shore anywhere?—A. Not at Prince Edward Island or New Brunswick.

Q. Did you at Margaree?—A. I think we did. I know we did.

Q. How long where you fishing there?—A. We stopped there coming home, and fished half a day or thereabouts.

Q. How many barrels did you get?—A. I think we got three or four barrels.

Q. Why did you not continue and fill up your vessel there?—A. On account of scarcity of mackerel.

Q. There you were inshore, of course?—A. Yes.

Q. You went home, and what time did you get back to the bay?—A. I cannot tell you; but probably early in September—1st September.

Q. Where did you fish then?—A. At Magdalen Islands, most of the trip.

Q. Did you get your full fare there?—A. Not quite.

Q. Where did you next go?—A. After leaving Magdalen Islands?

Q. Are you looking at any memorandum which shows you where you went?—A. No; only the number of barrels.

Q. You went to Magdalen Islands and did not get a full fare; how many did you get?—A. I cannot tell you; about 100 barrels, I think; I am not certain.

Q. Was it the same vessel as you were in the first season?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you next go?—A. To Port Hood.

Q. There you fished inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you get many there?—A. A few; we fished across on Fisherman's Bank, to the westward of Port Hood, between Cape George and Georgetown.

Q. Why did you run back to Port Hood instead of running across to Banks Bralley and Orphan?—A. It was bad weather—windy weather.

Q. Was that the reason you went away to Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you think the Magdalen Islands a safe place?—A. It is in the summer season, not when it gets windy.

Q. What time does it become unsafe?—A. After 1st October it gets to be very windy, and there are very few days when you can fish.

Q. Do you call Magdalen Islands as dangerous as any place in the gulf?—A. It is not so dangerous as to the loss of the vessel, but it blows so hard in October that it is difficult to fish there.

Q. Why is it not dangerous if it blows so hard?—A. You can always make a lee under the islands.

Q. Then there is no danger of the loss of life or vessel at Magdalen Islands?—A. I did not say there is no danger.

Q. Comparatively small danger?—A. We can always sail to the leeward of the islands, so that the wind will blow off the land.

Q. Why did you not go to the leeward of the islands and fish?—A. It blows so hard we cannot fish very often.

Q. Would not the water to the leeward be comparatively calm?—A. It would blow so hard it would be impossible to fish; it often blows so hard it is impossible to fish.

Q. Yet you call that a safe place for a vessel?—A. Safe in regard to life and property.

Q. Do I understand that Magdalen Islands are safer or as safe as any other place in the gulf in September and October?—A. As safe, I think, in September.

Q. And in October?—A. It is not as safe for property as some other places.

Q. Would you prefer, as a matter of safety, to be fishing off Prince Edward Island in October than off Magdalen Islands?—A. That would depend on what part of Prince Edward Island I was at.

Q. Take the north part?—A. I should prefer Magdalen Islands.

Q. Take East Point?—A. East Point is a long way from any harbor or any place to make a lee.

Q. Souris Harbor is close by?—A. Souris Harbor is not a safe harbor.

Q. Is there no safe harbor, as far as you are aware, on the north side of the island?—A. Malpeque is a safe harbor if you can go in in the day-time and before the wind has been long blowing on shore.

Q. How about Cascumpeque and Rustico?—A. Cascumpeque is not a safe harbor.

Q. Nor is Rustico, I suppose?—A. I never was in Rustico; I know of no Gloucester vessels that go in there.

Q. Have you been at Cascumpeque since the Dominion Government has expended money on the harbor?—A. I don't know that I have; it is six or seven years since I was there, to the best of my knowledge.

Q. You don't know that at Souris there is a large breakwater, which cost \$60,000 or \$70,000?—A. I have heard so; I have not been there since it was built.

Q. On this trip in 1860 you did not fish inshore at all when you made the trip to Port Hood?—A. Only at Port Hood and near there; we might not have been exactly at Port Hood, but very near it.

Q. How many did you get?—A. A few barrels at Port Hood.

Q. Your whole cargo that time was how many?—A. Two hundred and twenty-five barrels.

Q. That year, then, you got over 450 barrels the two trips?—A. You are speaking of the last trip, are you?

Q. If I understood you, the first trip you got 225 barrels?—A. That is what I referred to now, when I spoke of 225 barrels; the last trip we got 160 barrels.

Q. On the last trip, did you fish anywhere on the shore of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes; I hove to several times.

Q. Within three miles of the shore?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. Between Souris and East Point.

Q. You did not get anything?—A. I should think one barrel or so, to the best of my recollection.

Q. Nothing more than that?—A. Certainly not over five.

Q. What was that owing to—to your not staying there?—A. Owing to there not being any mackerel there.

Q. Then you went to Port Hood?—A. We had been to Port Hood before fishing there. We go from bay to bay.

Q. You did not fish on the north side of Prince Edward Island?—A. Not that fall.

Q. In 1861, were you in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. How many trips did you make that year?—A. Two.

Q. Where did you go?—A. To nearly the same ground as the previous year.

Q. And neither in 1861 nor 1862 did you go inshore at all?—A. You are coming to 1862 now?

Q. Yes.—A. We went first to Banks Orphan and Bradley and on Pigeon Hill ground, and got a fare of mackerel there.

Q. You did not fish inshore at all?—A. No.

Q. You did not even try?—A. No.

Q. You did not go to Magdalen Islands?—A. Not that trip.

Q. In the fall?—A. We went to the Magdalen Islands in the fall.

Q. Were you successful there?—A. We got nearly our whole trip there.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. 200.

Q. How many did you take on the first trip?—A. 230.

Q. All those were paying trips?—A. I never made much money out of mackerel.

Q. I mean paying to the owners of the vessels?—A. I should think not.

Q. You think that each season would be a loss?—A. I owned part of the vessel myself and lost money.

Q. In each of those seasons, did you?—A. In 1861 and 1862.

Q. Who furnished the supplies; were you one of the merchants to furnish supplies?—A. No.

Q. Did your co-owners furnish the supplies?—A. Yes.

Q. Did they lose money?—A. I am not able to say.

Q. You did not ask them whether they made money?—A. I talked it over with them during the fall, when there came to be a settlement. I lost money myself.

Q. In 1860, 1861, and 1862, the prices of mackerel were very low?—A. I think they were.

Q. What did you get a barrel for your fish?—A. I cannot tell you now.

Q. Are you not able to recollect what you got for your fish as well as the number of barrels taken?—A. I cannot tell you, there are so many years, and very different prices.

Q. Have you no idea how you happened to lose money? I suppose

you would have lost money if you had had full fares, instead of full fares within 50 barrels?—A. There is other fishing connected with it. Some years there is a loss with other fishing connected with it—cod-fishing.

Q. A loss with cod-fishing as well?—A. Some years, at some times.

Q. As a practical fisherman, do you state that the inshore fishing at Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton, along the shore of New Brunswick and Quebec, are of no use to United States people?—A. Do you speak of Prince Edward Island in particular?

Q. I will take all the inshore waters of Cape Breton, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Gaspé, and along the south shore of Labrador. Do you say that those inshore fisheries are practically no use to United States fishermen?—A. I would not say they are no use to American fishermen.

Q. Do they make money by having access to them, or do they lose money—for if they lose money by them the fisheries are practically of no use?—A. From my own experience, they have never been much benefit to me.

Q. Have they been any benefit to you?—A. I have caught a few mackerel there occasionally. I might have caught as many somewhere else, perhaps, if I had been at another fishing-ground.

Q. I want your judgment as to whether those inshore fisheries are practically of any use whatever?—A. I should say they are very little benefit to me, if I was going fishing again.

Q. That is not the question. You are a practical man, and you seem a fair man, and I want your opinion as to whether you think that the privilege of fishing inshore, within 3 miles, is of any use to United States fishermen.—A. I think they were not any great use. That is as fair as I can answer your question.

Q. You admit they are of some use and benefit?—A. Yes. I have caught some fish there—a few.

Q. All the fish you admit having caught within the 3 miles amount to nothing. Half the time you did not try to fish inshore?—A. As a general thing I did not try to fish there. Some years I have tried to fish there.

Q. Tell me what practical use it is to the United States. Is it of any use at all?—A. Some other vessels may have fished there more than I did.

Q. Have you heard of any vessels being more fortunate than you in fishing within 3 miles of the shore?—A. I think I have heard of vessels which have taken more fish inshore than I have.

Q. Have you heard of American vessels taking large fares within 3 miles of the shore, not including Magdalen Islands?—A. I think I have heard of vessels getting considerable mackerel on the Cape Breton shore.

Q. You have not heard of them getting considerable mackerel along the coast of Prince Edward Island?—A. Not large fares inside of the 3-mile line.

Q. Then, practically, in your judgment, it is not worth while for the United States to make a fight about getting in there to fish? All the trouble is really sentimental. United States fishermen get on just as well with the right to fish in the gulf, keeping away from 3 miles of the coast?—A. I don't think it is worth while to make a great fight about it.

Q. You think it would not?—A. It would not.

Q. Are you aware whether these are the views of fishermen at Gloucester and Boston, that really the privilege of fishing inshore in

British waters does not amount to much ?—A. To the best of my knowledge the Gloucester folks don't consider the inshore fishing in the gulf very valuable.

Q. Do they consider it of any value at all ?—A. I should think they would consider it of little value.

Q. Would the Gloucester people who are engaged in cod-fishing be able to employ their vessels all the year round except for the mackerel-fishing ?—A. Yes.

Q. And they would make more money by cod-fishing without mackereling ?—A. I did better myself cod-fishing than mackereling.

Q. About the general trade. Do you believe the Gloucester people could give their continuous attention to cod-fishing without mackerel-fishing ?—A. Without that of Bay St. Lawrence—I do.

Q. And without fishing for mackerel in Bay St. Lawrence they would get along just as well ?—A. I think so.

Q. And make more money ?—A. I made more cod-fishing myself.

Q. What you have done, other people could do, I suppose. You cannot account, under the circumstances, for the desire of American fishermen to get the privilege of fishing within three miles of the shore in the gulf, can you ?—A. No; I don't know whether they do wish to fish within the three miles or not.

Q. Do you mean to tell me they do not; if you mean it, say so ?—A. I am not prepared to tell you they do not.

Q. Suppose they do, you cannot account for it ?—A. I can only account for it, to the best of my judgment, by their not doing much within three miles, as far as I know.

Q. Can you account for their wishing to get the privilege of going within the three miles; you would not wish to go within the three miles yourself ?—A. I would not give much for it myself.

Q. Can you account for anybody having that desire ?—A. I am not prepared to say in regard to other people.

By Mr. Whiteway :

Q. Are you now interested in any fishing vessels ?—A. No; I am not.

Q. You have a thorough knowledge of the number of the vessels fitted out in Gloucester for the fisheries ?—A. I could not tell you the exact number.

Q. Could you give me an approximate number ?—A. To the best of my knowledge, about 500.

Q. Can you tell me how many are engaged in the cod-fishing business alone ?—A. No; I cannot.

Q. Can you give me the approximate number ?—A. To the best of my knowledge, I should say 200. I may not be correct.

Q. How many may be engaged in cod-fishing at one season and mackereling at another ?—A. A great part of those which go mackereling go cod-fishing early in the year.

Q. Then the greater number of the 500 vessels would go cod fishing and about 300 would go mackereling at one season of the year ?—A. I think so.

Q. You fitted out for cod-fishing, about what time ?—A. Many vessels, fit out on 1st February, the greater part of them then.

Q. And they continue cod-fishing till when ?—A. About 1st July.

Q. Then they go mackerel-fishing in the gulf, till about what time ?—A. We leave the gulf about 1st November.

Q. Are those vessels employed in any manner between the time they

leave off mackereling and commence cod-fishing?—A. Many of them go herring voyages.

Q. Are the crews of those vessels engaged for the whole year, or are they engaged for the several distinct trips, cod, mackerel, and herring voyages?—A. Most of the crews leave Gloucester and go to their homes in different parts of the country.

Q. At what time?—A. During the month of November.

Q. Those same crews are engaged in cod-fishing and mackereling, but not on herring voyages?—A. Not always. There are generally men enough living in Gloucester to man the vessels that go on herring voyages.

Q. You hire a distinct crew, as a general rule, for the herring voyages?—A. No; not exactly.

Q. Are the crew hired for the cod fishing and mackerel voyages together, and then when they return from the mackerel voyage is the crew hired for the herring voyage?—A. They will not be hired for the herring voyage till the vessel is ready to go. Vessels may lay up weeks, perhaps months, after leaving off mackereling, before going for herring.

Q. Is the same crew employed on the cod-fishing and mackerel voyages?—A. Not necessarily so.

Q. But generally is it not the same crew?—A. Pretty generally so. They may not have been in the same vessel, but in some other vessel.

Q. You have said you were fishing on the Banks between the years 1870 and 1875, inclusive. Upon what Banks were you fishing?—A. Sable Island Bank or Western Bank, meaning all one; Banquero; also at the Grand Bank at different times.

Q. How many years were you fishing on the Grand Banks?—A. I have been parts of six years on the Grand Banks.

Q. That is between 1870 and 1875?—A. I was part of the time also before 1870.

Q. Then you were engaged in Bank fishing prior to 1870?—A. Yes.

Q. As master?—A. Yes.

Q. I understood you to say to Mr. Dana that from 1859 to 1869 you were engaged in mackerel-fishing in the gulf?—A. Parts of the years.

Q. How many of those years, between 1859 and 1869, were you on the Banks?—A. Every year but one, I think.

Q. Then, in point of fact, between 1859 and 1875 you were every year on the Banks fishing for cod, except one?—A. I think so.

Q. You fit out for the Bank fishery about the beginning of February?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you tell me the quantity of provisions you would put on board your vessel for a voyage of four months, with a crew say of sixteen men?—

A. Nine barrels of flour, not less; two barrels of pork, 25 pounds of tea, six barrels of beef, ten bushels of potatoes, one barrel molasses, one barrel sugar, one barrel beans, half barrel coffee, quarter barrel rice; also some small articles which I have not mentioned.

Q. Do you supply the men with tobacco?—A. No, they get that before they leave port.

Q. They get it on their own account?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you give me the prices at which those articles were charged, say for 1875, the last year you were out?—A. Flour, about \$8.50 per barrel; pork, \$17 or \$18 per barrel; tea, about 40 cents per pound; molasses, 50 cents a gallon; rice, 15 cents to 16 cents per pound; potatoes, 50 cents a bushel; beans, \$3 a bushel; beef, about \$16 a barrel; sugar, 12 cents per pound.

Q. Are not those charges far in excess of the ordinary cash prices of

those articles?—A. I don't think they are. I am not positive. I may not have been correct in the prices of those articles, but they are as near as I can tell.

Q. As an ordinary rule, are not the prices charged far in excess of the ordinary cash prices?—A. I cannot say that they are.

Q. Can you say that they are not?—A. They are not to my knowledge.

Q. There was a witness here the other day who said that 20 or 25 per cent. was charged in addition to the ordinary cash price. Are you prepared to say that those prices you have mentioned were not much in excess of the ordinary cash prices charged for those articles?—A. I don't think they were; to the best of my knowledge they were not.

Q. How many gallons of molasses are there in a barrel?—A. 28, I believe, the way we fill a barrel.

Q. You have given the results of your mackereling voyages, or at least some of them; can you give me the results of your cod-fishing voyages, as regards the quantities taken, from 1870 to 1875?—A. It would be rather difficult for me to do it correctly.

Q. You cannot do so?—A. Not very accurately.

Q. But, upon the whole, the cod-fishing voyages were paying voyages?—A. Yes, with me; I made more than I did mackereling.

Q. And does that same reply apply to all previous cod-fishing voyages from 1859 to 1869?—A. Yes, with me. I may have made some bad voyages; I have made some poor voyages.

Q. But, upon the whole, the cod-fishing has been successful?—A. Yes, it has with me.

Q. Has not the cod-fishing fleet increased materially within the last two, three, or four years?—A. Yes.

Q. Very materially?—A. I believe it has.

Q. When did you begin to use fresh bait?—A. From my first going in 1859, we used fresh bait—going on Georges Bank from Gloucester—frozen herring.

Q. Did you continue to use fresh bait?—A. Every year when I went to Georges Bank.

Q. And how long did you continue to go to Georges Bank?—A. I have been there parts of nine winters, making one voyage each year.

Q. Where were you the remaining part of the year?—A. I came down to the Western Bank, and the latter part of the season went to the Grand Bank.

Q. Then you made three voyages?—A. The voyage to Georges was a very short one, perhaps two weeks.

Q. Then you made three cod-fishing voyages nearly every year, from 1859 to 1869?—A. Yes; and sometimes more than one voyage to Georges.

Q. You stated, I think, that you had generally used fresh bait?—A. I always used it when going to Georges.

Q. You said you had fished with both salt and fresh bait, but mostly with fresh bait. As a general rule, you used fresh bait?—A. Yes, as a general thing.

Q. Did you always fish with trawls?—A. Not always, but perhaps for the last eight or nine years I did.

Q. Prior to that you used hand-lines?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you find fresh bait as good for hand-line fishing as for trawl-fishing; it is about the same, I suppose?—A. It is better for hand-line fishing than for trawl-fishing, perhaps.

Q. Have you ever been to parts of the Dominion or Newfoundland for fresh bait whilst fishing on the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. Where have you been?—A. I have been to Prospect, which is not far from Halifax; to Whitehead, near the Strait of Canso; to the Strait of Canso; to Fortune Bay, Newfoundland; and St. Peter's on the coast of Newfoundland; and to quite a number of harbors on the coast of Newfoundland, not far from Fortune Bay.

Q. In what year did you commence to go into those places for fresh bait; what was the first year?—A. I was at Prospect 10 or 11 years ago. I think that was the first time I came into the Dominion for fresh bait.

Q. Have you continued to get fresh bait in different parts of the Dominion and Newfoundland from 10 or 12 years ago till 1875?—A. Not every year.

Q. But generally?—A. More than one-half of the time. Some years I have been unable to obtain it; after looking a month for it, I have not got it.

Q. You have come in for it every year?—A. I have come in nearly every year I have been to the Eastern Banks.

Q. For the last nine or ten years?—A. Yes; with one or two exceptions, perhaps.

Q. When was the first time you went into the coast of Newfoundland for fresh bait?—A. I think the first time I went to Newfoundland for bait was eight years ago.

Q. To what part did you go?—A. Into Fortune Bay.

Q. You went from Gloucester to Fortune Bay, and from thence to the Banks, I suppose?—A. We took bait at Gloucester, and used it on the Western Bank, and St. Peter's Bank, and then went to Fortune Bay, and got bait, and went from there to the Grand Bank.

Q. How long did it take you to go from St. Peter's Bank to Fortune Bay, and thence to the Grand Banks?—A. I have usually been one week, and sometimes two weeks, from the time of leaving St. Peter's, until we got bait, and reached the Grand Bank.

Q. Have you ever been in any harbor of Newfoundland between Cape Race and Conception Bay for bait?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever use caplin for bait?—A. I tried it, and gave it up.

Q. You have said you had some conversation with captains of vessels in reference to the use of fresh bait?—A. Yes.

Q. When had you those conversations?—A. At various times for the last eight or ten years.

Q. And they have at all these times expressed their strong disapprobation of going into ports for fresh bait?—A. They have very strong objections in regard to trouble with their crews, the time spent in obtaining bait, and sometimes the price of ice in which to preserve the bait.

Q. During eight or ten years these views have been expressed by you?—A. I have heard it spoken of in that way.

Q. Every year?—A. Perhaps not every year, but frequently.

Q. Generally?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you name any of the captains with whom you had the conversations?—A. I think I can name one or two.

Q. Name them—A. The last one who talked with me about it was William Williams, of Gloucester.

Q. Can you name any others?—A. I don't think I can without thinking some time.

Q. During the last three or four years, I believe, the great majority of the Bank fishing-vessels have come in for fresh bait, either into the

harbors of one of the provinces or into those of Newfoundland?—A. I think they have done so.

Q. In fact, it is the general practice at this time for all cod-fishing vessels on the Banks to go in for fresh bait? I am not saying whether it is advantageous or disadvantageous.—A. Many of them do.

Q. The great majority of them do; nearly all, in fact?—A. I think that more than one-half of them do. I refer to Gloucester vessels when I say that.

Q. Can you explain how it is, if the captains disapprove of going into those harbors for fresh bait, that the practice has grown until it has become almost universal?—A. I think it has been more difficult to obtain bait and ice lately than it was years previously.

Q. You have not had any experience during the last two years?—A. No.

Q. The practice being now almost universal of going into the harbors of the provinces, or the coast of Newfoundland, for fresh bait, how is it that the captains do so when you state that the practice is greatly disapproved?—A. Vessels are very anxious to get fresh bait, if they can do so without too much disadvantage and time spent.

Q. It is considered so far superior that vessels are very anxious to obtain it, and make sacrifices to obtain it?—A. If one vessel is fishing with fresh bait and another vessel is fishing near with salt bait, the one with the salt bait will not do as much. I presume if they all fish with salt bait there will not be that difference.

Q. As a matter of fact, a salt-bait vessel has no chance when fishing alongside a vessel with fresh bait?—A. Not so good a chance.

Q. You cannot explain how it is that the practice has so increased and become almost universal, when it is so disapproved?—A. People are desirous of getting fresh bait.

Q. People are desirous of getting fresh bait?—A. Before they went in after this bait, I think the vessels did as well as they do now.

Q. Can you give any statistics in regard to vessels fishing with salt bait and fishing with fresh bait?—A. I am not prepared to do so now.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. You were asked by last counsel (Mr. Whiteway) as to the relative prices at which articles were supplied you by the owners of the vessels. Without going into details, I would like you to state to the Commission how the matter is generally managed in Gloucester. The supplies for the vessels usually charged to the crew are usually furnished, are they not, by one of the owners, who acts as agent and purchases supplies?—A. Usually.

Q. Is the practice universal? Is there any obligation to buy from the owners?—A. No; the crew are not obliged to do so. If a man has the money, and wishes to buy elsewhere, he is at liberty to do so.

Q. Is Gloucester a place where there are few firms; or is it a place where there are a great many persons engaged in the selling of all sorts of outfits?—A. There are a great many.

Q. Is there any such thing as combination among them; or is competition greater than combination?—A. There is greater competition.

Q. What class of persons make up, for the most part, the crews which sail from Gloucester? Is it or is it not the case that persons who are masters one day may be hands another day?—A. Yes; frequently.

Q. Very much so?—A. Yes.

Q. You have among your hands a good many men who have been masters themselves, and understand the business?—A. A good many men who have been masters, and are capable of going as masters.

Q. When they return from their trip they receive an account, do they not, from the owners?—A. Yes; and they are on the wharf to take account themselves of their catch.

Q. Do you know of anything like attempts to defraud them? Would it be a practicable thing?—A. I never heard of such a thing being done.

Q. Would it be practicable?—A. I don't know how it could be done.

Q. As a rule, crews are attentive to their settlements?—A. The majority of them are.

Q. And the number of persons employed on vessels is, of course, very large. Do the men who go in Gloucester vessels change from one employer to another?—A. Yes; very frequently.

Q. Are there various habits among the different employers and outfitters, as to liberality or illiberality, as to closeness or generosity in making up accounts and feeding the crews, and are these pretty well known in Gloucester?—A. Perfectly well known among the crews.

Q. When the crew comes home the vessel's cargo is packed out. The mackerel are culled over when the crew are present. Is that an open or a close transaction?—A. They are supposed to be all there, and generally are.

Q. They are present to see fair play; they see the process of putting them into barrels and weighing?—A. Yes; and one of the crew superintends the weighing.

Q. So as to the culling; is there any objection made to the culling?—A. The crew are always there and speak of it.

Q. Is it sometimes the case that the owner of vessels, instead of furnishing a fisherman with his outfit and clothing, gives him an order or indorses his bill on some shop where the fisherman buys?—A. Quite frequently gives the man an order to get his outfit and clothes at some other store.

Q. In that case the owner becomes responsible?—A. Yes.

Q. If the fisherman is lost during the voyage and does not leave property behind him, the owner has to pay the debt?—A. The owner loses the amount.

Q. And if the voyage turns out unprofitable, and the man has not the money to pay it, the owner must pay it?—A. The owner has to pay it.

Q. From your experience, do you know that, when an owner has a store he retails articles out to his crews at retail prices, and buys according to his skill and sagacity at wholesale prices?—A. Yes.

Q. What do you think, on an average, is the difference between the wholesale price at which the owner is able to buy, and the retail price charged to the crew?—A. Probably eight or ten per cent.

Q. You don't think it exceeds that?—A. I do not.

Q. Is that a matter perfectly understood by the fishermen?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you think the fisherman who has to take credit can do better than that, if he undertakes to supply himself?—A. I don't think he can do better than that.

Q. Is it not understood to be the business of the skipper to stand by and take accounts of all the weighing and other matters?—A. Always.

Q. He has an interest like one of the crew?—A. Yes; and more than they.

Q. And an account is made out of what is charged to the crew and what to the master, and the same rate of charge is made to the skipper as to the crew?—A. Yes.

Q. There is a regular charge for the captain as well as for each member of the crew?—A. Yes.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. How many vessels of the mackerel fleet are there that do nothing but fish for mackerel, that is to say, that have nothing to do with cod-fishing, the coasting trade, or West India trade, but lie up during the winter? How many of the fleet are there that do nothing during the winter, if there are any?—A. There are some, but I cannot tell you the exact number.

Q. Is there a great proportion of the vessels engaged in other business connected with cod-fishing?—A. Yes.

No. 58.

Maj. DAVID W. LOW, postmaster of Gloucester, Mass., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. I think you were born in Gloucester?—Answer. I was.

Q. What age are you?—A. Forty-four years.

Q. Did you at any time go into the fishing business?—A. I did, in 1860.

Q. Did you go in as a partner?—A. I did.

Q. What was the name of the firm?—A. Sinclair and Low.

Q. How many years were you in it?—A. Three.

Q. In 1860, 1861, and 1862?—A. Yes.

Q. You were engaged in fitting out vessels, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever make a fishing voyage yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. More than one?—A. Only one.

Q. What year was it?—A. Eighteen hundred and fifty-five.

Q. Did you go into the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Yes.

Q. What was the vessel?—A. Austerlitz.

Q. Where did you fish?—A. In Bay Chaleurs and round Magdalen Islands.

Q. Do you recollect what you caught?—A. One hundred and eighty packed barrels; we got 205 sea-barrels, I think.

Q. You made but one trip?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you do any of that fishing inshore, within what you supposed to be three miles of the shore?—A. Yes, some of it.

Q. You tried inshore and off shore?—A. Yes.

Q. What success had you with the inshore fishing?—A. We caught some fish.

Q. What proportion of your catch?—A. I should think we caught 20 or 25 barrels inshore out of the whole trip.

Q. At that time the Reciprocity Treaty was in force; did you give the inshore fishery a fair trial?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1860, 1861, and 1862 you were partner in a firm engaged in fitting out vessels; how many vessels did you fit out in that time?—A. Eight.

Q. Were you interested in those eight vessels?—A. I was in part of them.

Q. What voyages did they make?—A. They were cod-fishing on George's Bank; trawling for halibut on the Western Bank; and mackereling in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and off the American coast.

Q. During what months were these vessels employed in cod-fishing?—A. From January to June; one went for the whole season.

Q. And the others from January to June?—A. Yes.

Q. When were they employed trawling for halibut?—A. From February to June.

Q. Where did they take the halibut which they caught?—A. They took the most of it to Boston then.

Q. How was it preserved?—A. In ice.

Q. Was large or broken ice used?—A. The ice is broken up on board to pack the fish in.

Q. Your vessels were not smacks?—A. No; smacks are not used in Gloucester at all.

Q. What bait was used by the cod-fishing vessels during this period?—

A. Herring and pogies, principally.

Q. Frozen herring?—A. Yes.

Q. Did any of your vessels engaged in cod-fishing run into any Dominion ports for bait?—A. No; not to my knowledge.

Q. During these three years, from 1860 to 1863, do you know, from the reports of the masters and inquiries and otherwise, where your vessels, as a general thing, caught their fish in the bay?—A. Yes; the Magdalen Islands is the principal fishing ground which they have mentioned.

Q. Were the fish caught, according to the reports of the masters, and your observation and knowledge, mostly outside or inside of what might be called the three-mile line?—A. They were mostly taken outside.

Q. How many trips did your vessels usually make for mackerel after they returned from cod-fishing? I suppose that some went for mackerel?—A. Some made one trip and others two trips.

Q. Did they return to Gloucester when they made two trips?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1863 you gave up the business of fitting out vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you in the war?—A. Yes.

Q. How long were you in the service?—A. About two years.

Q. To what rank did you rise?—A. Major.

Q. In what employments have you been engaged since the termination of the war?—A. Since the war I have been employed surveying and conveyancing, and as town clerk in Gloucester, and from the town clerk's office I went to the post-office.

Q. Apart from the duties of these posts, to what have you chiefly devoted your time and attention?—A. When I was town clerk I made up statistics with regard to our State, and I have done so since.

Q. Have you been very much engaged in the making up of statistics with reference to the State and of Gloucester, and of the fishing-business and population of Gloucester, &c.?—A. Yes; more or less.

Q. And those statistics have been incorporated into some volumes of pamphlets?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you some of them here?—A. Yes.

Q. How many years of your statistics appeared in the report made by the secretary of state to the legislature?—A. Those for the years extending from 1868 to 1872 were contained in the reports returned to the librarian of the commonwealth from the town.

Q. Have they not been adopted and sent in as executive documents in some instances to the legislature? Do you happen to know for what years?—A. The law of Massachusetts requires the town clerks to return the town report of each year to the librarian of the commonwealth; and those reports I have returned.

Q. I think I saw some which seemed to be executive documents, giv-

ing the aggregates of property, taxes, &c., as assessed May 1st, 1870, compiled by the secretary of state of the commonwealth?—A. Yes.

Q. This was also the case for 1875?—A. Yes.

Q. And these are two specimen pamphlets?—A. Yes.

Q. And they contain your Gloucester reports?—A. These are in them.

Q. Have you made up a column of statistics relating to Gloucester?—A. Yes; I first submit a statement with regard to its population. It is as follows:

GLoucester, August 24, 1877.

The following is a true account of the population of Gloucester, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, during the period mentioned, as shown by the returns made by the census agents appointed for this purpose:

1850	7,786
1855	8,935
1860	10,904
1865	11,937
1870	15,389
1875	16,754
1877 (estimated at)	17,000

A true copy.

Attested by—

JOHN J. SOMES, *City Clerk.*

Q. The census is taken once every five years in Massachusetts, alternately by the nation and by the State?—A. Yes.

Q. The increase in the population of Gloucester seems to be very much smaller for the last seven years than it was during previous periods?—A. Yes.

Q. You have no doubt as to the correctness of that statement?—A. No. I also beg to submit the following statement:

GLoucester, August 23, 1877.

The following is a true and correct account of the valuation of Gloucester, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, during the period mentioned, as taken from the assessor's books:

	1850	\$1,635,787
	1851	1,705,045
	1852	2,373,488
	1853	2,697,430
Reciprocity	1854	3,272,593
	1855	3,304,324
	1856	3,720,536
	1857	3,727,214
	1858	3,780,785
	1859	4,051,265
	1860	4,332,740
	1861	4,111,364
	1862	4,021,033
	1863	4,053,397
	1864	3,936,387
	1865	4,859,348
Reciprocity terminated	1866	5,375,656
	1867	6,511,754
	1868	6,707,382
	1869	6,993,533
	1870	7,187,107
	1871	7,435,932
Treaty of Washington	1872	7,898,816
	1873	7,711,096
	1874	8,472,329
	1875	9,238,265
	1876	9,380,948
	1877	9,223,382

A true copy.

Attested by—

JOHN J. SOMES, *City Clerk.*

Q. The valuation in 1875 was \$9,200,000 odd ; in 1876, \$9,300,000 odd, and in 1877, \$9,200,000 odd ; there seems to be no difference but rather a slight decrease, comparing 1877 with 1875 ; does that arise from any change of system of valuation, or is it, in your opinion, a correct valuation made on the same principle ?—A. It is a correct valuation made on the same principle.

Q. During the whole period from 1850 to 1877, do you know of any change in principle on which the valuations are made ?—A. Well, during the war there was an increased valuation put on, on account of the inflation of the currency.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. Those are currency values, of course ?—A. Yes ; all are so.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Since 1870, and from 1870 to 1877, after the more immediate effects of the war had passed away, was any change of policy or principle made in the mode of the valuation of property ?—A. No ; not to my knowledge.

Q. What is your next paper ?—A. It is a table showing the increase of the city of Gloucester, Mass., from 1850, when a town, in population and valuation ; it is as follows :

Table showing the increase of the city of Gloucester, Mass., from 1850 (when a town), in population and valuation. The census of 1840 gave the population 6,350.

Year.	Census.	Population.	Valuation.	Average valuation of each inhabitant.	Average increase of valuation of each inhabitant for each term of years.
1850	United States	7,786	\$1,635,787	\$210	.....
1855	State	8,935	3,304,324	370	\$160
1860	United States	10,904	4,332,740	396	26
1865	State	11,938	4,859,348	402	12
1870	United States	15,397	7,187,107	467	59
1875	State	16,754	9,238,265	552	85

Q. Have you made a careful inquiry so as to ascertain from the proper authorities information relative to the increase and condition of Gloucester as compared with some other towns of the county of Essex ?—A. I have.

Q. State these details for towns not engaged in fishing.—A. The statement is as follows :

1875. Population of Lynn, 32,600 ; valuation, \$23,077,793 ; \$861 to each inhabitant.

1870. Valuation, \$20,927,115 ; increase in 5 years, \$7,150,678.

1875. Population of Haverhill, 14,682 ; valuation, \$10,497,132 ; \$701 to each inhabitant.

1875. Population of Lawrence, 34,916 ; valuation, \$24,117,373 ; \$691 to each inhabitant.

1875. Valuation of Beverly, \$8,545,125 ; in 1870, \$5,563,050 ; increase, \$2,982,075.

1875. Valuation of Marblehead, \$4,058,610 ; in 1870, \$3,115,300 ; increase, \$943,310.

The above are all manufacturing places. Beverly and Marblehead were formerly large fishing-ports.

Q. Lynn is a place which has nothing to do with the fishing business?—A. Yes; it is a manufacturing town, and is engaged in the shoe business.

Q. Beverly has entirely ceased to be interested in the fishing business?—A. Yes; almost. It has now gone into the shoe business.

Q. Marblehead was the first fishing-place in the United States?—A. I think so; but it is gone now into manufacturing. Beverly and Marblehead were formerly large fishing-places, but the towns above mentioned are now all manufacturing places.

Q. Did you make up statistics in reference to the fishing business for the Centennial?—A. I did.

Q. And you spent a good deal of time on them?—A. Yes.

Q. And they were presented to the Centennial Commission?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you give us some statistics with relation to the fishing-towns of Massachusetts, showing what the effect of this different system of fishing in the bay has been, as far as you can, on the fishing business of Massachusetts?—A. I have a table showing the valuation of the principal fishing-ports of Massachusetts other than Gloucester. It is as follows:

Table showing the valuation of the principal fishing ports or towns of Massachusetts, other than Gloucester, in 1875, as compared with 1870.

Place.	Year.	Valuation.	Decrease.	Increase.
Barnstable.....	1870	\$2,657,100	\$42,400	
	1875	2,614,700		
Chatham.....	1870	1,007,442	246,108	
	1875	770,334		
Provincetown.....	1870	1,981,161	137,070	
	1875	1,844,191		
Brewster.....	1870	747,849	125,745	
	1875	622,104		
Yarmouth.....	1870	1,412,017	9,769	
	1875	1,402,248		
Sandwich.....	1870	1,405,100	6,150	
	1875	1,398,950		
Dennis.....	1870	1,478,204	30,617	
	1875	1,448,587		
Orleans.....	1870	520,621	98,257	
	1875	422,364		
Wellfleet.....	1875	877,149		\$64,300
	1870	812,849		
Total decrease in valuation, eight ports.....			697,116	
Gain in one port.....				64,300

Q. You have taken every fishing town in that particular State?—A. Yes; every town which I knew had vessels engaged in fishing in the whole commonwealth, except Gloucester.

Q. Were these statistics made up by you before you knew anything about the meeting of this Tribunal, and without any reference to it whatever?—A. These were made up here from the books which I have with me.

Q. And you made up your statistics for the purpose of the Centennial?—A. Yes; and I have also other statistics.

Q. You were very thorough in your preparation of them for the Centennial?—A. I tried to be so.

Q. The original census from which these statistics were obtained, were prepared without any reference to this Tribunal?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever made up any statistics relative to the shore and gulf fisheries, showing the difference between the American shore fishery and the Gulf of St. Lawrence fishery?—A. Yes, and the statement is as follows :

Number of fishing vessels in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery and the American shore mackerel fishery.

	Barrels.
1869.—194 vessels in gulf, average catch 209 barrels	40,546
151 vessels off shore, average catch 222 barrels	33,552
Mackerel caught by boats and some Eastern vessels packed in Gloucester	19,028
Mackerel inspected in Gloucester	93,126
1875.—58 vessels in gulf, average catch 191 barrels	11,078
117 vessels American shore, average catch 409 barrels	47,853
	58,931

The average catch is based on the average catch of 84 vessels from 17 firms in 1869 ; and 28 vessels in bay and 62 vessels off American shore from 20 firms in 1875. These firms have done better than the rest.

Q. You do not, I suppose, include in this statement any but vessels—it has nothing to do with boat-fishing?—A. No.

Q. Will you state from what source you have made up these statistics?—A. The information concerning the vessels which fished in the gulf, and those which fished off our shore, I obtained and tabulated for the information of Gloucester when I was town clerk, in 1869, and the report for 1875 was procured for Centennial purposes—not by myself, but by some one who did his work well.

Q. Can you say, as a matter of belief, that these statistics were made up for Centennial purposes and not with reference to this Tribunal?—A. Yes; I believe that is the case.

Q. From what sources were those for 1875, for instance, taken?—A. The catch was taken from the reports of the number of firms I mentioned.

Q. To how many firms do you refer?—A. These include the most successful firms, George Steele, &c.

Q. Those are the firms that had been the most successful, whether on our shore or in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; which are considered to be the most successful firms in Gloucester?—A. George Steele, Leighton & Co., Dennis & Ayer, and Smith & Gott.

Q. These are generally considered to be the most successful firms?—A. Yes.

Q. Were they all included in this return?—A. Yes.

Q. The tonnage of the vessels was somewhat larger in 1875 than it was in 1869?—A. I think not. I think it was about the same.

Q. In order that the Commission may understand whether these Gloucester merchants, when making their statements here, are guessing at what they say, or have absolute data to go upon and know what they are about, you have, at our request, made an examination of the books of one of the firms?—A. I have examined the books of the most successful firm engaged in the bay mackerel fishery.

Q. That is the firm of Mr. Steele?—A. Yes. I did this of my own accord, because I wanted the Commission to see how these books are kept.

Q. Will you produce these books?—A. I have the trip-book, which I have numbered one, for the years since 1858 and 1859. Their previous books were burned in the great fire at Gloucester in 1864. I have the trip-books for the years extending from 1858 to 1876, inclusive, 19 years.

Q. What is the meaning of the term "trip-book"?—A. This is a book with which the voyage is made up and settled with the crew, showing the parts which belong respectively to the vessel and the crew. The voyages of all the schooners from 1858, as long as they were running, are drawn out. I have prepared an abstract from these books; also a summary of that abstract and an explanation of this summary. This is a summary of all the voyages made by the fishing-vessels of George Steele from 1858 to 1877; it shows the time employed in the cod and halibut fishery, and those engaged in the mackerel fishery off the American coast and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, giving the amount and value of their catches, &c. (For summary of the voyages see Appendix to Evidence.)

Q. All this you were able to take from these books which the firm kept for their own convenience?—A. Yes.

Q. What is that?—A. As you all well know, in Gloucester, our fishing-fleet meets with a great many disasters, and a great deal of money has to be given in charity to widows and orphans of fishermen; and so for a few years back it has been the practice among vessel-owners to deduct, with the consent of the crews, of course, from the gross earnings of their vessels, one-quarter of one per cent. to be given to the widows' and orphans' fund.

Q. The owners contribute half and the men half?—A. Yes; and this is put in as a stock charge.

Q. Is it not the case that the number of widows and orphans occasioned by disasters in the fishing business has been large?—A. O, yes. The statement continues:

The amount of the "stock expenses" is found on above summary by doubling the vessel's share, which adds the crew's share, and taking that amount from the "gross stock," this leaves the amount of the "stock expenses."

By dividing the "value of the catch" by the "barrels caught" (packed), this gives the average value of the mackerel, exclusive of packing.

The number of "vessels employed" in each class of fishery, shows the number engaged in that particular fishery some part of the year, and the "number fitted" gives the total number of vessels owned and fitted each year.

It will be found by the "summary of voyages," that from 1858 to 1865, inclusive, the average catch of his vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence was 338 packed barrels of mackerel, which sold, exclusive of the packing and barrels, for \$11.10 per barrel of 200 pounds. From 1865 to 1872, inclusive, the average catch was 280 packed barrels, sold for \$14.40, average price per barrel. From 1872 to 1876, inclusive, the average catch was 223 barrels, sold at an average price of \$10.01 per barrel, exclusive of barrel and packing.

The average time of each vessel employed in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery was 4 months 13 days by 6.3 vessels, yearly for 17 years. The average catch was 304 packed barrels, the average price sold for, \$12 per barrel. The vessels' share for the 17 years, \$372.66 per month each; the average share to the crews, \$24.84 per month each.

The average time employed in the cod and halibut fisheries was 6 months 18 days each year, for 19 years, by 8.21 vessels. Average vessel's share per month, \$352.21.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. I thought that in your previous statement of month by month, it was \$300 and something?—A. Yes; it was \$372.66 in the gulf.

Q. And what was it in the cod-fishing?—A. \$352.21. Mr. Steele's vessels have been unusually successful in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. And the most so of any ?—A. Yes ; that is a well-known fact. The statement continues :

Average share to crews, average 9.5 men, \$38.12 per month.

The average time employed in the American shore mackerel fishery was 2 months 20 days each year for 9 years. The average catch per year for 2.3 vessels was 239 barrels of mackerel ; the average price which was in years of low prices was \$7.10 per barrel, exclusive of barrel and packing. Average share to vessels per month, \$310.60. Crew's average share, \$20.70 each per month.

The average time the vessels were employed in all the fisheries was 9 months 14 days by 9.1 vessels yearly for 19 years, for which time the average share for each vessel was \$3,228.08, or \$340.92 per month. The crew's shares, average share for each man, was \$264.33, or \$27.83 per month to 12.25 men, the average crew for each vessel.

Q. The cod fishery seemed in one respect to be superior to and more profitable than the mackerel fishery, and in another less so. The men's shares were more in the cod than they were in the mackerel fishery ?—A. The former is attended with a good deal less expense and requires fewer men.

Q. In the mackerel fishery a larger proportion of barrels is required ?—A. The proceeds of mackerel-fishing are to be divided among 15 men, while in the cod fishery these are to be shared amongst some 9 men.

Q. Will you select some one vessel from Steele's trip book and show in detail how it is kept ?—A. I have here the method of making up a voyage of a Grand Banker using fresh bait and a Grand Banker using salt bait. The statement for the former is as follows :

Schooner Pharsalia.

Sailed for Grand Bank May 29, 1875, arrived at Gloucester September 6, 1875. Time absent, 3 months 8 days.

84,685 lbs. large cod, at 2½ cents.....	\$2,222 98	
2,205 lbs. small cod, at 1½ cents	28 94	
13,510 lbs. damaged cod, at 1 cent.....	135 10	
6,100 lbs. fletches (halibut), at 4 cents.....	244 00	
195 galls. oil, at 45 cents.....	87 75	
Number galls. blubber, at 0.....	00	
	2,718 17 (Gross stock.)	
Less stock charges	301 42 (Stock charges.)	
	2) 2,417 35 (Net stock.)	
	1,208 67	

Exd.

(Examined by owner of vessel.)

Ledger page.	Crew's names.	Net shares.	
310	Samuel Ang. Keene (master).....	\$93 54	
335	Andrew Clark.....	93 54	
381	Michael Howlett.....	93 54	
378	Duncan McIsaac.....	93 54	
378	William Gosbee.....	93 54	
378	Levi Johnson.....	93 54	2) \$2,718 77 Gross stock.
418	William Albert Guptill ½.....	23 39	
417	Malcolm A. McKinnon ½.....	70 15	12) 1,359 38 (½ Gross stock.)
199	Charles Austin.....	93 54	
418	John Welsh.....	93 54	113 28 Gross share.
418	Barney Canivan.....	93 54	19 74 Expense.
56	George Somers.....	93 54	
468	Alex. McLeod ½.....	70 15	93 54 Net share.
469	Thomas Welsh ½.....	23 39	
	Crew's expenses.....	86 11	
	Balance.....		
	Total.....	1,208 67	

Schooner Pharsalia.

5 tons ice, at \$3, from Webster (bought in Gloucester for keeping bait).....	\$15 00
1 ton ice at St. Peter's, at \$3.50, gold, at \$1.15 (value of \$1 in United States currency)	4 03 Cr. Keene (master.)
5 tons ice at Burene, at \$15, gold, at \$1.15 (\$3 gold per ton)	17 25 Cr. Keene (master.)
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons ice at St. John's, at \$21.50, gold, at \$1.15 (\$10 gold per ton)	24 73
5 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons ice at Arichat, at \$16.50, gold, at \$1.15 (\$3 gold per ton)	18 98 Cr. Keene.
65 barrels bait at Fortune Bay, at \$30, gold, at \$1.15.	34 50 Cr. Keene.
55 barrels bait at Fortune Bay, at \$55, gold, at \$1.15.	63 25 Cr. Keene.
13 barrels caplin, at St. John's, \$3.50, gold, at \$1.15..	4 03 Cr. Keene.
20 barrels herring, at St. John's, \$20, gold, at \$1.15..	23 00 Cr. Keene.
12 pairs nippers, at 60 cents (worn on hands in fishing)	7 20
Widows' and orphans' fund ($\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent. off gross stock)	7 00
5 butts for oil, at \$3	15 00
5 iron-bound barrels for oil, \$12.50	12 50
Gauging-fee on oil, 75 cents; 2 hogshhead tubs, \$7 ...	7 75
Wharfage, St. John's, \$1.15; consul's fees, St. Johns, \$3.18	4 33
Entering and clearing at St. John's, \$4.60	4 60
Commissions on bait-money at St. John's, \$11.62	11 62
Port charges paid by Keene at St. Pierre, \$5, gold...	5 75
Light dues paid by Keene at Fortune Bay, \$17.54, gold	20 17
Telegram paid by Keene to Arichat, 63 cents gold...	73
	2)301 42 Stock charges.
$\frac{1}{4}$ stock charges	150 71
Chronometer hire	12 00 Cr., Sept. 10, 1875.
4 dozen condensed milk	14 00
Towing, May 26, 1875	5 00 paid Aug. 19, 1875.
Labor on ballast	23 50
Gun, \$2.50; caps, 60 cents; powder, \$4.	7 10
Tarring rigging	6 00
Elwell, medicine chest	5 00
1,500 barrels (gallons) water here	7 50
2 feet wood, sawing and splitting	1 00
Water at St. John's	4 37
Water paid by Keene (master)	64 Cr. Keene.
	12)236 82 Crew's expenses.
Share of expenses	19 74 (for each of crew.)

This copy was made from the trip-book of George Steele, of Gloucester, Mass. George F. Winter, bookkeeper, to show the method of settling the voyage of a "Grand Banker" that used fresh bait wholly. Abbreviations and other matters are explained in parentheses, thus ().

Attested.

DAVID W. LOW.

Q. Our men use nippers with their lines?—A. Yes; and some of the hands are marked three-quarters, and some one-quarter; those are boys who pay only that proportion of the crew's charges.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. What is the meaning of gross expenses, \$86.11, following the men's expenses in the book?—A. That is the amount of those expenses on that side; several items which go to make up the sum total are thus included.

Q. Nothing is said about provisions?—A. No; the cost of provisions

is entered on the owner's ledger; this is a trip-book, showing the settlement of the voyages with the crew.

Q. You have read from that statement that so many codfish of different kinds produced the gross amount of \$2,718; but there is no deduction made from that which I notice.—A. There is \$301.22.

Q. For provisions?—A. That \$1,208.67 is credited on the owner's ledger, and the schooner has her share of the voyage.

Q. And out of that comes the provisions?—A. The debtor side of the ledger shows the cost of provisions and outfit.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. I see that you divide that by 12 and 14?—A. There were on board boys who paid only one quarter of a man's share of the expenses.

Q. You have there charges for scraping and tarring, splitting wood, &c. Why are these charged to the crew?—A. Because in former times the crew did all that work themselves.

Q. They came aboard the vessel and worked to fit her?—A. Yes.

Q. They hoisted in and hoisted out, tarred the rigging, split the wood, and all that, themselves?—A. Yes.

Q. They have dropped that on the understanding that they have to pay for it?—A. Yes.

Q. That has been the usage?—A. Yes.

Q. Well understood?—A. Yes.

Q. Before you leave that, I want to ask you in reference to an item there, "damaged codfish."—A. 13,150 pounds of damaged cod, at 1 cent, \$135.10.

Q. Why should there be this damaged codfish? What is the cause of it?—A. Well, I have my own opinion of the cause.

Q. What do you believe to be the cause?—A. I believe the cause is going in so much for fresh bait.

Q. How should that damage the codfish?—A. My opinion is that the salters salted it with the idea that they would not go in so much, and didn't put so much salt on it. When she went into port so much, going into the warm water it heated.

Q. So that if a vessel intends to go into harbor there ought to be a little different proportion?—A. Certainly.

Q. That is coming out of the cold water on the Banks?—A. Yes.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Before you leave this schooner, I would like to see what the result of that trip was to the vessel. I mean how much it cost the owners to provision her, and how much they paid out of that \$1,208.67 that went to the vessel's share.—A. I have made up a profit and loss account. Of course, I had no such thing as a ledger to work from, but I had the trip-books, and I made up an account of Mr. Steele's trips in the bay, from the time they commenced in 1858 to 1876, for seventeen years.

Q. What I wanted was, without going into the particulars of these voyages, to know what the actual cash result was.—A. It is pretty hard to reckon that.

Q. Of course, if you can say nothing more about it you need not dwell upon it.—A. I cannot, because the manner of keeping the books does not show the particular voyages of any one vessel. The charges against the schooner are all entered on the debtor side and the result of the voyage on the creditor side.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Does not the book of original entries show what the charges in the ledger are made up of?—A. I have what the outfit of a mackerel catcher cost.

Sir ALEXANDER GALT. No; not a mackerel catcher.

WITNESS. I have a Grand Banker, but not any particular voyage.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Sir Alexander Galt asked you whether you had not the data by which you could make up an exact profit and loss account of this particular voyage?—A. I could if I had time. I could make that voyage the basis in making up such an account from facts which I carry in my mind in regard to the general course of the business.

Sir ALEXANDER GALT. That would not be exactly what I would like to have.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. That trip was in 1875?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, I suppose the object of Sir Alexander Galt's question was to ascertain what the cost of provisions was as one item.—A. I can give that.

Q. From some other book?—A. From a paper I have. Not that particular vessel, however.

Q. You haven't brought his ledger?—A. No, only his trip-book.

Q. You made this up after you arrived here?—A. Yes. All these statistics I made up since I arrived here. I had only those materials. I didn't have time in Gloucester.

Q. If you were there it could easily be done?—A. Not for one particular voyage.

Q. I suppose the provisions, being bought wholesale, are not charged to any particular vessel?—A. Well, each vessel's outfit is charged to her.

Q. But not when they are bought by the owners; that is mercantile business?—A. No. That does not affect any one vessel. When they are put aboard any one vessel they are charged to that vessel.

Q. That appears where?—A. In his day-book and ledger.

Q. Now, you have given the result of a cod-fishing voyage, using fresh bait. Have you a similar statement of a voyage where salt bait was used?—A. Yes; I have. The following is the statement:

Schooner Madam Roland.

5 barrels slivers (porgie), at \$8, including barrel from William Gardner	\$40 00
5 barrels slack salted clams, at \$11, including barrel from M. Knowlton	55 00
6 pairs nippers, at 60 cents (worn on hands in fishing)	3 60
1 butt for oil (hogshead)	3 00
Fee paid for gauging oil	1 20
12 oil-barrels	24 00
Widow and orphans' fund	6 90
11 water-barrels used up, at \$1.50	16 50

2) 150 20 stock chs.

Crews expenses.		One-half stock charges	
Bait	\$3 96	12 gallons molasses for beer	\$75 10
Nippers	15	5 barrels hops	1 25
Oil-barrels	1 80	Half-barrel	75
Gauging	5	55 barrels water	11 00
Widow and orphans	29	4 feet wood, S. & S. (sawing and splitting)	2 00
Beer	77	Towing, August 22, 1873	3 00
Water	92	Towing, October 11, 1873	3 00
Wood	17		
Towing	50		
	8 61	Crew's expenses	103 30
		Share of expenses (12 men) ..	8 61

12 hands, all share alike, except	2) 2,758 27 gross stock.
John Kaffery, who is on wages.	12) 1,379 13
At \$50 per month, from August 15, 1873, to	114 92 gross share.
October 15, 1873, 2 months, equal to \$100	8 61 expenses out.
	106 31 net share.

The above was copied from trip book of George Steel, of Gloucester, Mass., George F Winter, bookkeeper, to show the method of settling the voyage of a Grand Banker that used salt bait, with what fresh bait they caught on the Banks. Abbreviations and other terms used are explained in parenthesis, thus ().

Attest:

DAVID W. LOW.

Schooner Madam Roland.

Sailed for Grand Banks August 26, 1873. Arrived at Gloucester October 10, 1873. Time absent, one month fourteen days.

81,400 barrels large split fish (cod), at 2½	\$2,238 50
23,70 barrels small split fish (cod), at 1½	328 21
110 barrels fletches (halibut), at 7	7 70
	2,574 41
317 gallons oil, at 58 cents	183 86
	2,758 27 gross stock.
Less stock charges	150 20
	2,608 07 net stock.
	1,304 03

Ledger page.	Crew's names.	
155.	Millard F. Harris	\$106 31 paid.
74.	John McIntire	106 31
189.	John Reed	106 31
189.	William Cummings	106 31
152.	Stewart Hadley	106 31
142.	Charles Scott	106 31
154.	Charles Cogill	106 31
84.	Alexander Muise	106 31
158.	Daniel W. Gerry	106 31
	Charles Eruckson (no account)	106 31 { paid October 31, 1873, on wages.
58.	John Haffey	106 31
116.	Peter Green	106 31
	Sundries, for beer	9 20
	Water	11 00
	Wood	2 00
	Towing	6 00
	Balance	11
Total		1,304 03

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Have you in that account 12 oil-barrels, \$24?—A. (Inspecting account.) No; I am sorry to say I have omitted that.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. One voyage is for four months and the other only one month and a half?—A. Yes.

Q. What appears to be the reason that the voyage on which fresh bait was used was so much longer than the one on which the salt bait was used? Were they fitted for voyages of different lengths or was it because of the time taken going in and out?—A. That is the way I account for it. They usually fit for the same length of time.

Q. Now, we have had one voyage for cod with fresh bait and one with salt bait; have you any other?—A. I have a statement of a mackerel-catcher. It is as follows:

Schooner Oliver Eldridge.

55 barrels slivers (porgies), at \$6.50, from Eclipse lot.....	\$357 50
7 barrels clams, at \$6, from last year	42 00
Difference between skipper's account and wharf account (see explanation O).....	6 00
Harbor dues at Georgetown, Prince Edward Island, \$1.....	1 20
Widow and orphans' fund	8 86
	415 56 stock charges.

Crew's expenses.		$\frac{1}{2}$ stock charges	
Bait	\$14 06	4 dozen milk	207 78
Error, 21 cents; widow and orphans, 31 cents	52	Hoisting ballast	14 00
Milk	98	Towing, November 3, 1875	75
Towing	39	Rigging fly-jib	5 00
Fly-jib	56	Taking off sails, &c.	8 10
Sails	21	Scraping and tarring.....	3 00
Scraping and tarring.....	57	Elwell medicine-chest.....	8 00
Medicine-chest	44	Hoisting mackerel	6 20
Hoisting	32	16 barrels water	4 50
Water, 23 cents; wood, 7 cents...	30	2 feet T. and T. wood	3 20
Cook.....	8 48	Extra to cook	1 00
		Cook's average, 16 shares	10 00
			110 74
	26 83		14 $\frac{1}{2}$ (382 27
			26 83

Cook has average share and half his fish and \$10—14 $\frac{1}{2}$ shares.

Crew's names.	Mess No. 1.			Mess No. 2.			Mess No. 1.			Mess No. 2.			Gross earnings, packing taken out.
	Barrels.	Pounds.	One-half value.	Barrels.	Pounds.	One-half value.	Barrels.	Pounds.	One-half value.	Barrels.	Pounds.	One-half value.	
Wm. Crawley and John Hick.....	30	43	\$241 72				7	25	\$42 75				\$284 47
Thomas Crawley, one-half	9	148	77 92				2	66	13 95				91 90
John Murphy, three-quarters.....	6	168	54 72				2	126	15 78				70 50
John Collin	11	66	90 64				2	96	12 78				103 42
Maurice Hickey, one-quarter	7	61	58 44				1	95	8 85				67 29
Mike Coughlan, one-half	5	159	46 36				1	99	8 97				55 33
Allan Cameron	15	82	123 28				3	137	22 11				145 39
Timothy Kelley	5	95	43 80				1	168	11 04				54 84
Thomas Green	12	118	100 72				3	19	18 57				119 29
Jos. Goslin, jr.	11	39	89 56				2	142	16 26				105 82
L. J. Dias, cook	10	192	87 68				1	97	8 91				96 59
Charles Cantrell	12	29	97 16				1	118	9 54				106 70
Nicholas J. O'Brien.....	14	50	114 00				2	97	14 91				128 91
James Dooley	9	180	\$99 00	160	84 80	3	50	26 00	1	105	9 15	138 95	
Michael Murray	9	183	99 15	5	40	31 20	2	8	...	90	2 70	133 13	
John Barrett	5	32	51 60	1	100	9 00	...	...	...	1	90	8 70	69 30
Total	24	195	249 75	7	100	45 00	156	102	1,252 08	37	100	225 00	1,771 83

Schooner Oliver Eldridge.

Sailed for the Bay of St. Lawrence August 5, 1875. (Absent 2 months and 28 days.) Arrived at Gloucester November 2, 1875.

Packg. off.

24 barrels, 195 pounds mess No. 1 mackerel, at 20.....	\$499 50	
7 barrels, 100 pounds mess No. 2 mackerel, at 12.....	90 00	
156 barrels, 102 pounds mess No. 1 mackerel, at 16.....	2,504 16	
37 barrels, 100 pounds mess No. 2 mackerel, at 12.....	450 00	
226	97	
		3,543 66 (grs. stock.)
Less stock charges.....		415 56 (net stock.)
		2)3,128 10
		1,564 05

Mess-mackerel are mackerel with heads and tails cut off and scraped, losing in weight 26 pounds on the barrel by the operation, but increasing the value of the mackerel.

Ledger page.	Crew's names.	Net shares.
438.	William Crawley.....	\$115 40
291.	John Hickey.....	115 40
438.	Thomas Crawley, $\frac{1}{2}$	78 48
450.	John Murphy.....	50 38
453.	John Collin.....	76 59
291.	Maurice Hickey, $\frac{1}{2}$	60 58
452.	Michael Coughlan, $\frac{1}{2}$	41 91
452.	Allan Cameron.....	118 56
451.	Timothy Kelley, $\frac{1}{2}$	48 13
49.	Thomas Green.....	92 46
478.	Joseph Goslin, jr.....	78 99
451.	Lauriana J. Dias, cook.....	190 50
452.	Charles Cantrell.....	79 87
452.	Nicholas J. O'Brien.....	102 08
431.	James Dooley.....	112 12
330.	Michael Murray.....	106 30
317.	John Barrett.....	42 47
	Milk, \$14; ballast, 75 cents.....	14 75
	Towing, \$5; fly-jib, \$8.10.....	13 10
	Sails, \$3; scrp. and tarr., \$8.....	11 00
	Medicine-chest, \$6.20; hoisting, \$4.50.....	10 70
	Water, \$3.20; wood, \$1.....	4 20
	Balance.....	8
		1,564 05

The difference between skipper's account and wharf account is explained as follows: The skipper or master keeps account as the different catches of his crew are weighed off. If the account of the packed barrels, after they are rolled out on the wharf, disagree with the skipper's, the value has to be charged or credited in gross stock, as it falls short or overruns.

This "bay trip" was copied from Trip Book of George Steele, of Gloucester, Mass. George F. Winter, bookkeeper, to show the method of settling the voyage of a mackerel catcher. Abbreviations and other terms used are explained in brackets, thus ().

Attest:

DAVID W. LOW.

The mess-mackerel are mackerel with the heads and tails cut off, and the mackerel scraped; losing in weight 26 pounds on the barrel, but increasing the value of the mackerel.

Q. There is an item for difference between skipper's account and wharf account. How much was it on that voyage?—A. \$6.

Q. What does that mean?—A. It means this: In weighing out the mackerel the skipper keeps an account of the weight of each man's lot, and when the mackerel are rolled out on the wharf, if there is a discrepancy between the actual weight of it as rolled out and the footings of the skipper's account, of course they don't know on which one of the crew it comes; so it is put in the gross stock account and divided among

all. If the balance is in the vessel's favor it is credited, and if against the vessel it is charged in the stock account.

Q. What is the history of the cook's wages, coming out of the men?—

A. In former times the crew had to take turns in cooking, and then, of course, they had so many green cooks, and the fares were so poor that they made up their minds to have a cook.

Mr. DAVIES. Is there any special object in putting these in?

Mr. DANA. It is only to give a specimen of the manner of making up the accounts for each kind of a voyage.

Mr. FOSTER. It shows also the result of each kind of voyage.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. I suppose the same remark applies to the calculation of the vessel's share in this case as in the other that you have given?—A. Yes; just the same. I have here a statement showing the method of making up the voyage of a schooner to the Grand Banks.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Is this codfish?—A. Yes; cod and halibut. We don't get many halibut on the George's in proportion to the halibut caught by those that go specially for it, and go into the deep water, where they are more likely to be found—about 200 or 300 fathoms. The statement is as follows:

Schooner Howard Steele.

10 tons ice at \$3, from Webster				\$30 00	
40 pounds bait at \$1, bought by skipper, with cash carried ...				40 00	
Widow and Orphans' Fund				1 61	
					2)71 61 stock charges.
Crews' expenses.		1	stock charges.....	35 81	
Ice	\$1 36	1	dozen condensed milk...	3 50	
Bait	1 82		Scraping and tarring.....	5 00	
Widow and orphans' ..	07	12	barrels water	2 40	
Milk	32		1-foot wood (sawing and		
Scraping and tarring ..	46		splitting, &c.).....	50	
Water	22		Cook's wages.....	29 34	
Wood	4				
Cook	2 67				11)76 55 crew's expenses.
	6 96		Share of expenses	6 96	

Crew's names.	Fish.		White halibut.			Gray halibut.			Gross earnings.
	Number.	One-half value.	Pounds gross, with heads.	Pounds net, without heads.	One-half value.	Pounds gross, with heads.	Pounds net, without heads.	One-half value.	
Ed. Flagg	311	\$25 61	66	57	\$1 71				\$37 39
James Madden	397	32 69	30	26	78	5	4	\$0 06	33 53
Thos. Kelly	375	30 87	64	55	1 65				32 52
Ed. O'Neil	343	28 24	82	71	2 13	8	7	11	30 48
Dan. Donahue	305	25 11	18	15	45	30	26	39	25 95
John Egan	323	26 76	28	24	79	19	17	25	27 73
Nich. Johnson	315	25 94	39	33	99		10		26 93
Axel Osborn	390	26 35	21	18	54	12	133	15	27 04
John Lewis	416	34 25	30	26	78	155		1 99	37 02
D. Kennison	365	30 05	47	40	1 20		11		31 25
John Brien, cook	259	21 33	60	52	1 56	13		17	23 06
Total.....	3,731	307 20	485	417	12 51	242	208	3 12	392 83

Average price of fish 16 46-100 cents each. Cook has average share, and half his fish pays one share of all expenses.

Sailed for George's Bank August 7, 1875. Arrived at Gloucester August 20, 1875 (absent 13 days).

18,805 lbs. large cod, at 2 5-8	493.63
6,500 lbs. small cod, at 1 5-16	85.31
260 lbs. pollack, at 5-8	1.62
194 gal. livers, at 15	29.10
Cash for sword-fish	4.75

485 (less heads)=417 lbs. white halibut, at 6.....	25.02
242 " =208 lbs. gray halibut, at 3	6.24

	145.68 Gross stock.
Less stock charges.....	71.61

2)574.06 Net stock.

287.03 Amt. vessel or crew's share.

Ledger page.	Crew's names.	Net shares.
386	Edwin Flagg	20.36 cr
415	James Madden	26.57 pd.
406	Thomas Kelly	25.56 pd.
456	Edward O'Neil	22.52 pd.
415	Daniel Donahue	18.99 pd.
415	John Egan	20.77 pd.
392	Nicholas Johnson	19.97 pd.
392	Axel Olson	20.08 pd.
435	John Lewis	30.06 pd.
441	David Kennison	24.29 pd.
No acct.	John Brien, cook	45.44 pd.
	Milk	3.50 pd.
	Scraping and tarring	5.00
	Water	2.40
	Wood	50
	Balance	2
		287.03

This trip or voyage was copied from "trip book" of George Steele, of Gloucester, Mass., George F. Winter, bookkeeper, to show the method of settling the voyage of a George's Bank fishing-vessel.

Abbreviations and other terms used are explained in parentheses thus ().

Attest.

DAVID W. LOW.

In the Georges fishing each man's halibut, when he catches them, are marked either on the head or the tail with his private mark. The codfish are thrown together, but each one cuts out the tongue and throws it into a bucket. Then the skipper counts them up at the end of the day and sets down a memorandum of how many fish each man has caught. The halibut are landed and weighed, and each man is credited with the number of fish he has caught in detail.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. That identifies the halibut, but how are the cod identified? They may vary from two to twenty pounds?—A. They make an average.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. What was the number of the crew in that trip?—A. Nine hands, I think.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. I want to ask you one question. I see this vessel took 40 barrels of bait, and was out only thirteen days. Could she possibly use that?

What kind of bait is it?—A. Herring, or probably alewives. They take money to buy bait, and go to Cape Cod or down east—generally to Cape Cod.

Q. They would not have it on board when they sailed?—A. No; they take money and buy it from a baiter outside if they come across a baiter on the way, or if they don't they go down to Cape Cod.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. That quantity, if not used, would not be wasted?—A. No. They use hand-lines on the Georges, and are more liberal in the use of bait than the trawlers.

Q. You would not say, I suppose, that they would use up that bait in that time?—A. I should say not. But they always look out to get bait enough, if they have a chance.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Have you made out a table to show the cost of a new schooner in the year 1875, fitted for each kind of business, or for the two kinds of business—cod and mackerel? If you have, take one of them.—A. I have. The first I take is as follows:

Cost of a new schooner, in 1875, at Gloucester, Mass., fitted for the mackerel fishery ready for sea, with 17 hands, vessel 67 tons, for a three months' voyage.

Cost of hull, including spars, patent windlass, and patent steerer	\$5,500
Rigging, including sails, rigging, blocks, stove, tinware, 45 fathoms chain, 100 fathoms $8\frac{1}{2}$ -inch manila cable, and 2 anchors (1,060 lbs.)	2,200

OUTFITS.

Bait, 55 bbls. of porgies and 7 bbls. of clams	400
Salt, 50 hhd. of salt	100
Sundries—bait-mill, seines, hooks, adzes, and other articles used on deck	50
Provisions, including fuel and oil for light for 3 months	700
Sundries—lanterns, horns, compasses, charts, bunting, spy-glass, log, sounding line and lead	100
Barrels, 450 fish-barrels, unheaded and numbered	725

Total cost of vessel, with outfits	9,775
--	-------

FOR SEINING—ADDITIONAL COST.

Seine, length 200 fathoms (1,200 feet), depth 30 fathoms, $2\frac{1}{8}$ -inch mesh, fitted ready for use	900
Boat, seine-boat, fitted ready for use	250
Dories, fitted ready for use	70

Less 50 bbls. bait, \$325, and provisions for 3 less men 3 months, \$125	450
--	-----

Total cost of seiner, with outfits	10,525
--	--------

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Is that an actual case?—A. It is from the cost of an actual vessel. It was procured from an actual vessel fitted ready for sea. It was procured as a specimen for the Centennial.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. You did that yourself?—A. Yes; I went and procured the statement from the owner, who bought the vessel and gave me the items.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. You make a difference between the cost of a vessel for seining and one for hand-lining?—A. Yes; the vessel fitted for hand-lining costs

\$9,775, for seining \$10,525. She has to be provided with a seine and seine-boats and dories, which come to \$1,200, but she does not carry so many men or use so much bait, which makes a difference in her favor of \$325 against the \$1,200 added, leaving a balance of \$750 to be added to the cost of a vessel fitted for hand-lining in order to fit her for seining.

Q. Now, can you give us a similar statement of the cost of a vessel for trawling halibut on the Banks, made out in the same manner for the Centennial?—A. Yes; I have it. It is as follows:

Cost of a new schooner at Gloucester, Mass., in 1875, fitted for trawling halibut on the Banks—

Vessel of 71 tons, cost \$8,000. Vessel made 9 trips to Western and Grand Banks, being at sea 302 days, with 12 men for crew, at the following expense, viz:

Trawl gear.....	\$1,023 25
Vessel's expense account.....	1,822 25
Provisions, &c	1,426 03
General charges, ice, bait, salt, &c	1,135 50
	<hr/>
	\$5,408 64

Q. Is that carpenters' measurement?—A. No; that is new measurement.

Q. The carpenters build by their own old measurement, don't they?—A. Yes; they build by their own old measurement.

Q. But this is the registered tonnage?—A. Yes.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. I understand that this vessel cost \$8,800, while the other cost \$5,500?—A. This is 71 tons.

Q. Well, there is only a difference of four tons between this and the last you gave?—A. I know that, but the \$8,800 includes cost of rigging, while the other is only the cost of hull.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. I suppose there is a difference in the style of building?—A. We can get vessels built cheaper down East than at Essex, and some at Essex cheaper than others. It is according to how they are built. The following statement shows the cost of a schooner fitted for cod and halibut fishing on the Grand Banks:

Cost of a new schooner, in 1875, at Gloucester, Mass., fitted for fishing on Grand Banks for codfish and halibut, the fish to be salted on board, fitted for four months' voyage, with 14 hands.

Cost of hull, 77.24 tons.....	\$6,000
Rigging	2,550
6 dories, fitted ready for use	168
Trawls, 13,500 fathoms, fitted	607
Knives	15
Salt, 200 hhds	400
Ice, 12 tons, for preserving bait.....	36
Water, 60 bbls.	12
Bait, 12,000 pogies, or herring.....	100
Fuel	34
Nippers, 24 dozen pairs woollen.....	12
Provisions	800
	<hr/>
Total cost of vessel, with outfits.....	10,734

I have now a statement of a vessel fitted for the George's Banks, for cod-fishing, ready for sea. It is as follows:

AT GLOUCESTER, MASS.

Vessel fitted for George's Bank cod-fishing, ready for sea, summer trip. Tonnage 80 tons, with 11 hands, 5 weeks.

Cost of hull.....	\$5,200
Spars.....	400
Rigging.....	550
Sails.....	575
Dory.....	14
30 tons pebble ballast.....	50
Platforms, ice-houses, and other fittings of hold.....	75
Gurry-pens and other deck-fittings.....	30
230 fathoms $\frac{3}{4}$ manila cable, weighing 3,304 pounds.....	450
3 anchors, of 500 pounds each.....	120
6 dozen 16-pound lines, 3 dozen gauging lines.....	10
Lanterns, horns, compasses, charts, bunting, spy-glass, log, &c.....	100
10 tons ice, for preserving bait and halibut.....	30
40 barrels bait.....	40
Wood and coal.....	10
14 barrels water.....	3
Provisions for 11 men, 5 weeks.....	175
Total cost of vessel and outfits.....	7,862

Q. I believe that in the last but one of the accounts you read from the returns the small cod was put in. Is that now usually brought in?—

A. Yes, it is saved and brought in.

Q. It used in former times to be thrown over?—A. Well, I don't know about that.

Q. Now they are brought in and have a market value?—A. Yes.

Q. The liver and other parts are brought in and saved?—A. Yes.

Q. Then the gurry-pen is the pen in which they throw the gurry?—

A. Yes.

Q. That is kept and thrown overboard at the proper time and place?—

A. Yes.

Q. Have you any memorandum there to show the amount of the importation into the United States from the Dominion fisheries in any one year, so as to show what value the privilege is to the people of the Dominion?—A. I have a memorandum of the importation last year.

Q. That is obtained from the custom-house?—A. It is obtained from a book that I saw in the room.

Mr. DAVIES. Let us have the book.

Mr. DANA. You need not mind that until we get the book. Will you take any other memorandum or table you have made?—A. I have a profit and loss account of George Steele's vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fisheries for seventeen years. It is made up from his bay trip book, Gloucester.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Be kind enough to explain how you made it up?—A. I gave him credit for the number of barrels of mackerel he got, the gross catch of his vessels, and deducted from it the stock charges, making the net stock, and divided that by two, which gave the vessel's share for the whole period of seventeen years. Then I charged the outfits and expenses. I charged him for the charter what I supposed.

Q. Did you take this from his books?—A. No; it is an estimated profit and loss account, made up by me.

Q. He is the owner of the ship?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Instead of trying to estimate a charge to be made for the use of the ship you call it "charter"?

Sir ALEXANDER GALT. I understand that one side of the account is made up from the books, and the other side is an estimate.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Do you find in the book the actual sales?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. You can go on with your statement.—A. It is as follows:

Number of vessels engaged during 17 years, from 1858 to 1876, inclusive, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence mackerel fishery, excepting the years 1870 and 1871, when none were sent, by George Steele, of Gloucester, 107; average time employed yearly, 4 months 13 days; average number of hands employed yearly for 17 years, 15.

Stock charges, 17 years.		Catch, 17 years.	
For bait, &c.	\$48,052 80	33,645 bbls. mackerel.....	\$403,832 86
		Less stock charges	48,052 80
<i>Outfits and expenses:</i>		Net stock.....	355,780 00
Provisions for 15 men for 4 mos.			
13 days; in 107 vessels, 15 x		Charterer for vessel's share...	177,890 00
133 x 107 x 40 cts. per day,		Crews' share.....	177,890 00
for fuel, oil, and provisions.	85,386 00		
8,500 bbls. salt.....	8,500 00		355,780 00
107 bait mills, at \$15.....	1,605 00	Charterers' expenses.....	222,605 00
Fishing-gear for 107 vessels,		Charterers' share, or earnings	
at \$45 each.....	4,815 00	of vessel.....	177,890 00
Custom-house and port charges	2,140 00		
Charter of 107 schooners, 4		Loss	44,715 00
mos. 23 days each, at \$200 per			
month.....	94,802 00	Charterer's loss on each vessel.	418 00
Insurance on charter, \$94,802;		Each vessel's earnings, as per	
barrels, \$30,000; bait, \$48,-		vessel account below.....	251 00
052; and outfits, \$100,406;			
total, \$278,160, at 4 per cent.	11,126 00	Actual loss yearly on each	
"Skippership," or master's		vessel	167 00
commission, on "net stock,"			
\$355,780, at 4 per cent.....	14,231 00		
	222,605 00		

DR.	VESSELS' ACCOUNT.	CR.
To insurance on 107 vessels, \$535,000, at 4 per cent.	\$21,400 00	Charter \$96,802 00
interest on \$535,000, at 7 per cent., 4½ mos	14,056 00	
taxes on \$460,000, at \$18 per year, for 4½ months	3,037 00	
depreciation on vessels, 4½ mos., 107 vessels, at \$275 each	29,425 00	
	<hr/> 67,918 00	
Balance to 107 vessels..	26,884 00	
	<hr/> 94,802 00	
		<hr/> 96,802 00

Net earnings of each schooner, \$251.

Q. The first part of that statement, I understand, assumes that you are dealing with the charterer?—A. Yes.

Q. The latter part shows what would be the result to the owner if he would charter his vessels to some one else?—A. No. If the owner who owned the vessel kept his account as well as the charterer.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. The man who charters the vessel would lose?—A. The one who chartered the vessel and fitted her for fishing loses \$418, and the one who lets him have the vessel makes \$251.

Q. Besides interest on his vessel?—A. Yes. Besides interest on the valuation of his vessel.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Allowing for depreciation?—A. Yes.

Q. Ten per cent.? I didn't hear you read the allowance for depreciation.—A. "Depreciation on vessels $4\frac{1}{2}$ months, 107 vessels, at \$275 each—\$29,425."

Q. What rate is that?—A. I didn't reckon it any more than what, in my judgment, the depreciation would equal on one of our fishing vessels.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. From your experience, what do you take to be the depreciation in a new vessel the first five years? Have you any means of knowing that? Have you inquired into that?—A. Well, the depreciation the first year on a new vessel is more than any other time.

Q. What do you suppose to be the depreciation on an average of a well-built vessel, built at Gloucester or Essex, in the fishing business, when well taken care of? I don't mean incurring any extraordinary expenses, or suffering from extraordinary negligence, but with good ordinary care taken of her?—A. The first year she would depreciate \$1,200. That is, supposing her to cost \$8,000.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Why should she depreciate more the first year than the second?—A. Because everything is new, and if at the end of a year you want to sell a new vessel, she will not bring so much. All these articles have to be renewed at the end of two years at the most—sails, rigging, and everything of that kind.

Q. Then it would seem she should depreciate more the second year.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. A little of that depreciation must be fancy. It is just like the ordinary case where second-hand goods sell for much less than brand new goods, although, practically, they may in some cases be almost as good as new?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you think a merchant, having to make up a profit and loss account and wishing to know his exact position at the end of a year on that trip, would allow that amount?—A. I think he would strike off one thousand two hundred dollars.

Q. That is, in making up an account with himself, in which case he has no motive for misrepresenting the value. It is based on the theory that if he had to sell her under fair average circumstances he would lose that amount?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, what do you think the depreciation would be at the end of five years?—A. I think a vessel built for \$8,000 at the end of five years would not be worth more than \$6,000, kept, of course, in good running order.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. That would only be \$800 depreciation for the last four years.

● By Mr. Dana :

Q. Now, does the rate of depreciation diminish as you go on?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is the depreciation for the second year as great as for the first?—A. Not so much, but it is more than the third year, because at the end of the third year she has a new suit of sails.

Q. She gets a new lease of life almost?—A. Yes.

Q. Then after that year I suppose she always has a proper suit of sails, and the depreciation diminishes on that vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. The period of greatest depreciation is from the time she is brand new to the time when she is not brand new?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. How many months are these vessels employed per annum on an average?—A. It is stated in that summary exactly.

Q. Mr. Steele's vessels would be about the average of the whole fleet?—A. Yes.

Q. You have called the average \$375 for the depreciation on a trip of four and a half months?—A. Yes.

Q. Then that would be \$550 depreciation for the year?—A. Yes.

Q. That would be an average for the course of her life?—A. Yes.

Q. The cost is assumed to be how much?—A. That average depreciation is based on an average cost of \$5,000.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Have you any other tables except the little one that we threw out?—A. No other tables. I have a description of how a voyage for mackerel-fishing is conducted.

Q. We won't have that at present?—A. I have a statement of the quantity of fish furnished to the Army during the war.

Q. You were active in getting fish put into the rations of the Army?—A. I was.

Q. You may state, without going into figures, perhaps, what effect that had upon the fishing interests of Gloucester during the time the war lasted?—A. I think it improved it. It made a better market for the fish and gave them higher prices.

Q. Do you think it had a sensible effect?—A. It increased the demand.

Q. Do your statistics enable you to state to what extent?—A. I can give you the number of barrels of fish used in the Army.

Q. I mean the quantity sent from Gloucester?—A. No, I can't do that.

Q. What was the quantity used in the Army annually. Give us one year as a specimen?—A. In the year 1864 they used 5,569,000 pounds of pickled fish, which cost \$395,547.26, and 6,156,858 pounds of dried fish, which cost \$451,025.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. Where is that taken from?—A. It is taken from a letter of the Commissary General of Subsistence of the United States Army in reply to a letter I wrote him.

Q. That might be the cost as delivered to the Army?—A. That is what the United States paid for it when they bought it.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. They delivered it at their own expense to the troops?—A. I presume so.

Q. Now I would like to ask you somewhat the same question I did to another witness, but I want to put it beyond doubt. You know they make up the voyages, and the details go into those books. Suppose a fisherman wants to know how much he is charged for his provisions, he has the means of knowing it from the books of the owners?—A. There are no provisions charged to him in our books, unless he is on what is called winter-shore fishing.

Q. That I don't care so much about. But whatever the items are that are charged to him, he has the means of knowing by the accounts given him, and also by examination of the books, if he wishes it?—A. Yes.

Q. And every owner of a vessel in Gloucester has to have a trip-book, doesn't he, and to have his accounts regularly kept?—A. Yes. Some keep it on a sheet of paper and some in books. But all the trips have to be made up, so as to show to the master and crew.

Q. A sharesman is not obliged to take his share in money, is he? He has a right to take it in fish?—A. Yes, half his fish—that is, after he pays his share of the expenses.

Q. Of course he has to pay the incumbrances, but he has a right, instead of receiving their market value, to take them himself and do what he pleases with them?—A. Yes.

Q. That is to say, he does not make a contract that he will take pay, but by his contract he may either take his fish or money?—A. That is just it.

Q. Well, do they do that ever; that is, take their own fish?—A. I have known instances where they took their own fish; where one of the crew was going home and he thought he could get more for the mackerel at home than it could be sold for there. (*See explanatory note below.*)

Q. Now, what class of men constitute the fishing crews generally that go from Gloucester? Of course we know that there are some bad men, but how are they as a general thing?—A. I think they are a very good class of men indeed.

Q. It is common, is it, for men to change from the post of master or skipper to a hand?—A. Yes, I have known instances where several skippers have been aboard our vessel.

Q. Ex-skippers, I suppose, we would call them. There have been several, you say, on one vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. Are the modes of doing business, the rates and charges and that sort of thing, well understood in Gloucester?—A. I think they are.

Q. Well, is Gloucester a place where there is or can be any kind of monopoly or combination among the people who sell to the fishermen or furnish them or is it competition?—A. Competition, decidedly so.

Q. Now, I need not ask you the question, but is Gloucester a place in daily and hourly connection by railway, telegraph, and newspaper with the rest of the country. They have the morning and evening papers from Boston every day, don't they?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, I want you to tell me when a vessel comes in from her fishing—we have heard it in part, but tell me what is the course of business when she arrives at the wharf? In the first place, the wharf belongs to the owner or to some owner?—A. Yes; the wharf belongs to the owner or fitter. A vessel may be owned by outside parties and come there to fit.

Q. There is no separate charge made for the use of the wharf in those cases?—A. No.

Q. That goes into what the owner has to furnish?—A. Yes.

Q. How is wharf property, high or low?—A. Wharf property is very valuable is Gloucester.

Q. I suppose that, like all property, it has decreased in value, owing to the general depression. Is that so or not?—A. Well, I don't know of any wharves that have been sold in Gloucester.

Q. Well, it may be that wharf property has held its own more than property in houses and land. How do you think that is?—A. I think it has not diminished so much as houses and lands up in town.

Q. I suppose there is a limit of available wharf property. You have your harbor, and the wharf property must be cut out of that?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, when the vessel comes to the wharf, what is the first thing done?—A. The first thing done is that the mackerel are hoisted out of the vessel to the wharf.

Q. By the crew?—A. By the crew, with a hired horse.

Q. They have got beyond hoisting it themselves?—A. Yes; as soon as it is landed each man knows his own fish by the private mark which has been put on the head of the barrel, and each stands by itself. The barrels are then unheaded by one of the crew and the fish pitched into the culling-crib, which is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide and 4 feet long. At each end there is a culler—that is, a man who selects the mackerel as No. 1, 2, and 3. From this culling-crib they are thrown into the culling-tub, according as the culler regards them as No. 1, 2, or 3.

Q. Who are those cullers?—A. They are men experienced in that kind of business—men of good judgment, because you have to rely on the judgment of the culler, under our laws, in regard to the quality of the mackerel. It is left to his judgment.

Q. Well, the owner is bound by the act of the culler as well as the fisherman?—A. Certainly.

Q. Have they ever been rejected?—A. I have not known of it.

Q. These cullers are sometimes on one wharf and sometimes on another?—A. Yes. When these tubs are full enough, two of the crew take them and lift them on the scales, where they are weighed by the weigher. As soon as they are weighed he cries out "barrels one, two, three," as the case may be, and the captain marks it on his memorandum-book. Then two of the crew empty the tub into the packing-crib, and there the crew's part of it ends. Then at the packing-crib it is packed in barrels and marked according to the grade. Then a half bushel of salt is put in with it, and the cooper takes it, puts in the head, and gives it a roll on the wharf. The barrel rolls down the wharf to where it is bored by the pickler.

Q. That is, he makes a bung-hole?—A. Yes; and then he puts a funnel in and pickles it. Then he allows it to stand awhile, and fills it up again until it is full of pickle. Then he brings it up, sets it on end, and it is branded with the deputy inspector's name and the grade of the fish. It is then turned out ready for market.

Q. Are the crew usually present and taking an interest in this?—A. Yes; they are right on hand until it is weighed off, and then they don't care any more about it.

Q. Now, do the owners and outfitters of vessels keep shops for the sale of clothing and such things?—A. No; there is very little if any kept by the outfitters. It used to be so.

Q. So these men who have clothes to purchase generally go to other places?—A. Yes.

Q. If they have cash or credit they make their own bargains? If they want the aid of the owner what do they do?—A. They get an order on a storekeeper.

Q. And the owner then becomes responsible?—A. Yes.

Q. Then after the voyage is up what clothing he has had is charged on his private account?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, what does the owner get for the risk? He takes the risk of the life of the man and also of the catch not amounting to enough. What profit does he get for that?—A. He gets a profit owing to the competition among the clothes-dealers. They allow a certain percentage to the owner of the vessel for giving these orders.

Q. How much is that? Is it based on the wholesale prices or as the bargain may be made?—A. It is based principally on the wholesale prices. They sell to the outfitter at the wholesale prices and charge the goods to the men at the retail prices at the store.

Q. The man knows what he will be charged on the outfitter's books?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, would it be possible for those who have neither credit nor cash to do any better than that?—A. I think not.

Q. I suppose if they went without any credit or cash, or any one to become responsible in this way, they would hardly make a purchase at all?—A. I think not. The risk is too great. As a general thing the storekeeper would rather have the order of the owner.

Q. Now, in case any of the crew thinks anything is going wrong, and does not get satisfaction, are there not plenty of lawyers ready to take up their cases?—A. It is to be assumed there are.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. I did not understand him to answer the question as to the outfitter's profit on the stores furnished on his credit? The seaman gets his bill, with the rate put on the account to show him what he buys at?—A. Yes.

Q. That is what you call the retail rate. He can go from place to place?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, having got his bill at the retail rate, it is given to him on the understanding that before he gets the clothes the bill must be indorsed?—A. He goes to the owner and says : "Here, I am going in your vessel and have no clothes. Give me an order on such and such a firm to get a suit of clothes or oiled clothes." He takes that order and goes up. He knows what the clothes are worth, and will not pay extravagant prices.

Q. Now the question is what the outfitter gets as compensation for the risk?—A. He gets a profit out of the manufacturer, or rather the wholesale dealer. If he gives an order on Carter, a manufacturer of oiled clothes, Carter will sell them at the wholesale prices and charge them on the account at the retail prices to the man.

Q. What is the percentage?—A. I could not form any accurate estimate.

Q. As nearly as you can say?—A. Some will pay more than others. I don't think the average is more than 8 per cent., perhaps 10.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. What would the articles be that the men would buy at the different stores?—A. Clothing. Tobacco they would get at the outfitter's store.

Q. The outfitter has tobacco?—A. Yes.

Q. Do they buy anything but clothing in this way?—A. I think not. They only buy what they actually need to fit them out to go on board the vessel.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. In case their families require assistance, is there any custom of supplying the families of the fishermen by the outfitters?—A. Yes; by letting them have supplies from the store and giving them cash.

Q. Is that done upon half-pay orders, or anything of that sort?—A. No; I never had an order from a man that went for me. If his wife came down I always let her have provisions.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Do you think it is the custom to make advances either in cash or goods?—A. Yes, if they run up an account to more than the voyage warrants, we check it.

Q. At what rate are those goods charged?—A. I think the average would be 10 per cent.

Q. You mean 10 per cent. on what?—A. I refer to the provision supplied to the families. I don't think they will average as much as that.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Take, for instance, the case of a barrel of flour, or something of that sort, what would the percentage be on that?—A. Well, a barrel of flour, when I was in the business, was \$8 or \$10.

Q. Is the percentage you name on which the goods are furnished a percentage over the retail prices?—A. No, they could not go to the grocers and get it for cash any cheaper than under this arrangement.

Q. How is the owner enabled to do that? You say they are furnished at about the same rate for which they would get those supplies, paying cash?—A. Well, perhaps for a few months past the competition in groceries has been so great that for cash you could purchase at any price you chose, and one grocer has gone up in consequence of that sort of trade.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. But in fair average times the owners allow the families about the rate that they could buy for with cash?—A. Yes.

Q. Where does the profit come from for the risk?—A. I do not believe they ever take that into consideration.

Q. But, as a business transaction, they buy it at wholesale?—A. Yes.

Q. Then in these cases of goods allowed to the families is there any other profit than the difference between wholesale and retail?—A. No; I don't think there is, as far as my knowledge extends. I will not say for all the firms in Gloucester. There have been many cases where groceries have been sold in this way to the families of men who have never come back.

(On the following day the witness requested leave to make an explanation with regard to the right of one of the crew to take his share of the fish in place of its money value. The explanation is to the following effect: "The mackerel of the crew are all packed. If any one of the crew desires his share of fish instead of money, he can have it by paying expenses, by requesting it of the agent of the schooner before the trip is sold.")

FRIDAY, *October 12, 1877.*

The Conference met.

Examination of Major Low resumed.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. Yesterday there was presented, but not explained at the time, a history of 27 vessels; did you prepare this?—Answer. Yes; I did.

Q. This gives a history, does it, of a series of vessels—twenty-odd vessels—in a tabulated form. The first name is the Austerlitz, tonnage so much, number of hands so many; “fishing,” I believe, means cod-fishing?—A. Yes; cod and halibut.

Q. The average hands fishing, 8; mackereling, 14. This gives the history down to 1868, when she was sold? The statement also shows what became of each vessel, whether sold or lost. The first column gives the time engaged in cod and halibut fishing, the number of months and days each year, the time engaged in mackerel-fishing each year, the gross value of the catch each year, the vessel's share and the crew's share each year. The quantity of fish caught is put down in quintals or barrels, according as it is mackerel or cod.

WITNESS. Might I be allowed to make an explanation regarding that? When I presented it yesterday, I intended to present it before the summary. The summary I presented in my evidence was a summary of those abstracts.

Q. In the cost of a new schooner you gave yesterday, you had one item, “expense account.” Have you the broadside that was printed for the use of the Centennial?—A. I can get it.

(The paper is produced, and explanation made that it cannot be put into the case, as it was taken out of a frame, having been used at the Centennial Exhibition, and brought here. It is a statement of the cost of a new schooner, built in 1875, fitted for the mackerel-fishing, ready for sea, 67 tons.)

Q. This printed sheet was used at the Centennial?—A. Yes; it was one of those framed and put around the tank in which we showed the models of fishing-schooners.

Q. Are these the same vessels you gave in that paper?—A. Yes; I made a slight alteration for the mackerel-catcher. That was made to show the cost of a schooner to fish off our own shores, and I made a slight alteration to adapt it to the fishing in the gulf.

Q. Yes; and then you afterwards gave the difference between the gulf-fishing vessels and a seiner on our own shores?—A. Yes.

Q. I see you put the cost of fuel, light, and provisions at 40 cents a day. There has been some question whether that was not a large sum.—A. It is based on an actual voyage. I have with me the original documents. I asked different owners of vessels who had new schooners in the different classes of fishing to furnish me with the cost of their schooners and such other information as they saw fit in relation to their schooners. One of them gave me full details of the cost of running a schooner for the whole season. I have the original papers that he handed me.

Q. I suppose you would not like to part with them?—A. I should not like to, but, if required, I could put them in.

Q. Now take the items that make this 40 cents per day per man.—A. Well, this vessel was engaged on the Grand Bank 302 days in the fresh-

halibut fishing with 12 men for a crew, and this is her bill for provisions for 302 days:

PROVISIONS.

11½	tons coal.....	\$115 00
2½	cords wood.....	25 00
21	bbls. flour.....	168 00
11	" beef.....	214 50
4½	" pork shoulders.....	89 25
3	" pork.....	84 00
4	bu. beans.....	10 00
60	lbs. rice.....	6 00
71	lbs. tea.....	35 50
2	bu. peas.....	5 00
68	gals. molasses.....	40 80
6	" vinegar.....	1 80
1017	lbs. sugar.....	106 78
152	lbs. d. apples.....	19 60
17	lbs. cream tartar.....	8 50
31	lbs. saleratus.....	3 10
72	galls. kerosene.....	14 00
20	lbs. spice.....	10 00
49	lbs. soap.....	4 90
9	lbs. mustard.....	4 50
4	b. lbs. pept. sauce.....	80
	Yeast cakes.....	2 30
	Bread preparation.....	6 10
	Lamp chimneys.....	4 00
	Table salt.....	1 95
12	lbs. candles.....	1 80
7	doz. wicks.....	70
2	Bristol bricks.....	20
7	rolls stove polish.....	70
120	lbs. bread.....	12 00
31	lbs. coffee.....	7 75
83	bush. potatoes.....	66 40
6	bush. onions.....	12 00
3	bush. beets.....	3 00
4	bush. turnips.....	4 00
5	gross matches.....	12 00
450	lbs. lard.....	76 50
490	lbs. butter.....	147 00
313	lbs. fresh meat.....	31 30
	Vegetables.....	30 00
200	bbls. water.....	40 00

 1,426 03

I have all the charges for that vessel that year.

Q. They live pretty well on board these vessels?—A. Yes; it is a well-known fact that they fare well on board the American schooners.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. This is what the 40 cents per day is founded upon?—A. Yes. I may observe that the peas seem pretty high, but they used split peas, most of them.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Now, is that a fair average cost for fitting out a vessel for that time?—A. I think it is; because I know others have figured it up to 45 cents.

Q. Now, how do you make out the 40 cents a day? You haven't given us that.—A. Well, it is got by dividing \$1,426.03, the total cost, by the number of men and the number of days. It is a fraction less than 40 cents.

Q. But there are some of those things that are not consumed. I suppose they are destroyed. Of course there is more or less waste—such,

for instance, as chimneys for lamps.—A. Well, they are breaking all the time. There would not be much of that left when they got home from their voyage.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. That is a cod-fishing voyage?—A. Cod and halibut. It would apply to the Grand Banks or the Western Banks. All classes of vessels average about the same.

Q. Now, the trawl-gear is put down on this broadside as \$1,000 and a small fraction. Have you the items of that?—A. I have. They are as follows:

Vessel 71 tons, cost \$8,800. Fitted for trawling halibut.

TRAWL-GEAR.

Twine	\$5 00
8 baskets	6 40
22 buoys	11 00
20 buckets	5 00
46 files	6 58
1,483 pounds ground-lines	444 90
346 pounds ganging-lines	410 72
26 knives	15 60
12 stones	75
32 staffs	5 25
360 pounds buoy-line	64 80
4 dozen brooms	9 60
52 gross hooks	109 20
23 pounds lobster-twine	8 05
5 dories	130 00
Iron and copper tacks	1 27
4 shovels	3 00
Anchor	40 00
Oars and scoops	47 13
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	1,023 25

Any explanation in regard to this that may be required I can give. Some of the terms used are technical.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. There is a term ganging-lines.—A. That is the small line to which the hooks are fastened.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Now, you have here in this broadside the vessel's expense account, \$1,823.85. Do they call that an expense account? Is that the way they entitle it on the books in making up the account?—A. No; it is all put in one account; all the things for the vessel are put in one account. These were separated for this special purpose.

Q. Now, you take this expense account; what period of time does it cover?—A. Three hundred and two days.

Q. Now, what are the items of the vessel's expense account?—A. They are as follows:

VESSEL'S EXPENSE.

Spun yarn	\$7 48
Parcelling	23 00
Leather	11 29
Jib hanks	1 30
Nails	1 32
Tinware, &c	79 50
1 anchor lost	48 96
Topmast (broken)	12 00
Paint and painting	90 00

Railway fee.....	\$15 00
Rigger	47 00
Blacksmith	60 00
Carpenter.....	65 00
Sailmaker's repairs.....	163 00
Lumber for ice-house.....	43 00
Insurance.....	539 00
Commissions to skipper.....	465 00
40 tons ballast.....	80 00
Swivel gun.....	38 00
Tarring rigging, &c.....	14 00

1,823 85

Q. Jib hanks are put in; they are part of the original furniture?—

A. I know; but they break some, probably, and have to be repaired.

Q. You put in "Marine Railway"?—A. Well, all the vessels in Gloucester are painted on the Marine Railway.

Q. How many have you in town?—A. Six.

Q. They are hauled up there for repairs?—A. Yes.

Q. The insurance is for that period of 302 days?—A. Yes.

Q. They are insured in a mutual fishing-office?—A. Yes.

Q. I believe it was explained that that mutual office was got up by fishermen and owners for their own benefit, and conducted on principles peculiar to themselves that were thought to be most beneficial. They don't insure in the Boston offices?—A. No, not now; the rates were too high for them.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. I understood this was an actual case for a particular vessel?—A. Yes; the name of the vessel is the Victor, belonging to Joseph O. Proctor.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Is the sum put in for insurance the actual sum paid?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Do you know how old a vessel she was?—A. She was built in the year previous. I don't know what time of the year.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. This statement was prepared for the Centennial?—A. Yes; it was prepared for the Centennial, but we did not have room for it to go in the space we had at the time at our disposal, and therefore we had to make the abstract which is contained in the printed broadside.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. You gave us your statement for the depreciation of the vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. Did that include repairs?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You put them into the depreciation?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, that is considering the depreciation of the vessel to be the amount laid out on her from year to year for repairs. But there will be a little more depreciation than that, would not there? In point of fact, is not the depreciation of the vessel a little larger than the amount that would be required to repair her?—A. O, yes.

Q. For instance, the substantial part of the ship, the hull from the keelson all the way up, even if that does not require repairs, still if it is of a certain number of years of age it will not sell as well as if new?—

A. No, sir.

Q. Something lies in the fancy that a new vessel is worth more than an old one?—A. There would be that.

Q. The next item here (on the broadside) is general charges, ice, bait, salt, &c. These you have given us, haven't you?—A. No; they are called miscellaneous charges. They are as follows:

Miscellaneous charges.

200 tons ice.....	\$600 00
Bait.....	354 00
Straw for bait.....	10 00
55 pair of nippers.....	27 50
Towage.....	50 00
75 lbs. powder.....	18 00
Medicine.....	25 00
Oil clothes, one man.....	15 00
18 hhds. salt.....	36 00
	<hr/>
	1,135 50

Q. Can you give us the average life of a fishing-vessel? I don't mean how long she will remain a hulk, but take her from the time she is built until she ceases to be fit to go.—A. I could not, right off, but I could figure it out very shortly.

Q. Perhaps you don't care to give us a guess?—A. No.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. I see you are leaving this item respecting the cost. I understood him to say he would give us the result of the year's work of the vessel.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. It is on that broadsheet, is it?—A. There is a recapitulation there on the broadside. (Reads.)

RECAPITULATION.

Trawl-gear.....	\$1,023 25
Vessel's expense account.....	1,823 85
Provisions, &c.....	1,426 03
General charges.....	1,135 50
	<hr/>
Total cost of running.....	5,408 63

By Mr. Davies:

Q. What was the owner's share?—A. \$5,798.65, and the expenses on that were \$5,408.63. Then she made about \$390.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Now, you say that leaves a small profit to the owners?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, in making up the charges against the vessel, in the owner's account, he credits himself with that \$5,000, which is his share of the catch after deducting certain expenses. You charge them enough against the ship to leave a small balance. You charge against it, of course, the provision account, and the account for repairs?—A. Yes; it is all charged in one account without any division.

Q. Then, charging the repairs and charging the provision account, you leave that result, do you?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then, how do you include a fair compensation to the owner for the use of his wharf and buildings and his own time?—A. That is a profit he gets out of the fish after they are landed.

Q. There is no special charge made for them?—A. No; not to the vessel.

Q. Well, is there any charge for depreciation on the vessel beyond

the expenses of the repairs that are put upon her in that period of time?—A. No.

Q. You make no charge for depreciation, but you take it to be equal to the amount of the repairs?—A. Well, I presume so.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. In the hypothetical case, yesterday, you allowed \$550 for depreciation for the year; that \$550, I understand, will have to pay for the repairs?—A. Yes; I intended that to cover in the same proportion for the whole year.

Q. How much is charged for repairs in these items you give that make up the amount in the broadside?—A. It would seem that \$100 would be the amount included in that for repairs.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Then it is perfectly understood that there is no special charge in connection with the vessel for the use of the capital—what we call now the plant, the wharf and building which are his investment—but that he gets his compensation for all that in whatever charges are made for the provisions, fitting, &c.?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, these men who are engaged in the fishing business in Gloucester, are they workingmen themselves?—A. Yes.

Q. Or are they men who put in their capital and let others take care of it?—A. No; they are workingmen.

Q. In what sense are they workingmen?—A. Well, most of them go on the wharf and work just the same as a laborer on the wharf. They see to everything, and lend a hand when it is needed.

Q. Are they usually men who have had experience either in that business or as fishermen themselves?—A. They have.

Q. Now, would it be possible, do you think, from your long experience, for a man to make a living if he simply invested his capital, as a sort of fancy merchant, looking in at times to see how things went, if he didn't give his personal attention to the business, and do a fair day's work overseeing it?—A. You mean whether he would get a living out of it? I think not.

Q. Are there any such cases down there?—A. You mean vessel-owners, I presume? No.

Q. Take the case of persons who don't themselves look after the work, but merely invest capital in the fishing and have others looking after it. Is there such a thing as that known in Gloucester?—A. No.

Q. It would not be an investment of any account if you undertook to invest your money and leave others to take care of it?—A. I don't know about that. I don't know any instance where it is done.

Q. What is your opinion? Have you a clear opinion?—A. My opinion is that they would not make a great deal on their investments.

Q. What do you mean?—A. Well, I mean that they would not get a very large percentage.

Q. Do you think they would get anything?—A. I think they would get a fair interest on it.

Q. Would they get more than that?—A. No, I don't think they would.

Q. Perhaps you didn't understand me; I don't mean where a person lets his capital to owners, because in that case they will pay interest; but suppose he was to invest his money in a fishing-vessel, simply paying for his share?—A. As I understand, you ask whether the owners and fitters of vessels in Gloucester make anything in their business?

Q. No, because they incorporate skill and give their daily labor to the work. But take the case where a man simply pays for his share in a fish-

ing-vessel and gives no attention to the business. Take the case of a non-resident. For instance, suppose I should buy a tenth part of a vessel and pay my proper share of the expenses, but put in no skill or attention or time of my own?—A. I think you would lose it.

Q. Are there any such cases now that you know of, at Gloucester, where people have simply invested in that way, incorporating no care, attention, time, labor, or skill of their own?—A. I don't know of any.

Q. Do you know of an attempt of that sort at Salem?—A. I do.

Q. How long ago?—A. I can't exactly tell. It is within ten years.

Q. What was it, a sort of joint-stock company?—A. Yes. Two firms moved from Gloucester with their vessels and formed a stock company.

Q. Were they capable, competent men?—A. Yes.

Q. There were no frauds you know of?—A. No.

Q. Now, to show what the opinion is generally of the value of one of these vessels, is it difficult or not to get money on mortgage at fair rates on a fishing-vessel?—A. No; I think they would have to pay an extra rate of interest.

Q. Are there many such cases of mortgages of vessels?—A. O, yes; I presume so.

Q. Do you know what interest they have to pay?—A. I don't.

Q. Now, as to selling vessels, is it an easy thing to sell a fishing-vessel, if a man, for instance, desired to go out of the fishing business; is it a thing that can be depended upon?—A. No; there is always a great sacrifice where vessels are sold at a forced sale.

Q. I don't mean a forced sale; but suppose he takes time enough, and gives notice, and sells at a fair open auction sale, is there a loss generally?—A. There is usually.

Q. And in settling up estates, how do vessels usually turn out?—A. As a general thing, poorly; during the war there were times when vessel property sold to advantage.

Q. For paper?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, is the reason of this that these vessels, being built specially for fishing-vessels, they can't profitably be run except by persons who will incorporate in the fishing business their own time and attention and skill?—A. Yes.

Q. An outside purchaser does not want to buy them?—A. No.

Q. Explain to the Commission how codfish are now packed and salted.—A. When the crew have been settled with, and the fish have been weighed, they are pitched into a dory filled by one man from a pump; eight men wash the fish, and after they are washed they throw them into a wheelbarrow and they are wheeled into the fish-house and delivered there to a salter, who salts them, and he has one man to bring him the salt. They take four bushels of salt to a butt, and that gang will take care of fifty butts in a day; then they are kept in the butts not less than ten days, after which they are water-hawsed, by being taken from the butts and piled up in piles about three feet high, to drain the pickle from them; this takes two men, and they were employed nine days on the trips I have in my mind; fifty butts a day are two men's work.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. How many quintals are there in a butt?—A. There are about eight quintals to a butt. Then after they come from being water-hawsed they are spread on flakes to dry; it takes four men two days to wheel them out, *i. e.*, fifty butts. The flakes have three-cornered strips nailed on frames resting on horses, in such a way that the frames can be taken

down and packed away; while they are drying on the flakes it takes four men to tend them, and wheel them in and pile them up after they are dry.

Q. Now they are dried codfish. What is the custom now as to preparing them for market? The merchants of Gloucester have made Gloucester the distributing point. It used to be Boston?—A. Yes; they send them to all parts of the United States direct. They take these fish and cut the tails off, strip them of their skin, and take their back-bone out. That is called boneless cod. Then some of them split it lengthwise, and others roll them up into rolls, cut them across the roll, and stand them upon end in boxes. There are several different ways of arranging them in the boxes.

Q. What is the usual size of those boxes?—A. They are 10, 20, 40, 60, 80, and 100 pounds.

Q. Now, they send those boxes all the way from 10 to 100 pounds. Formerly codfish were all sold whole, were they not?—A. Yes.

Q. How long has this custom of trimming them and packing them in boxes been in existence?—A. Since 1870.

Q. Has it been found successful?—A. Yes; because it has opened up a greater market for the codfish. Before that their bulk prevented their being distributed so well. Now, being in a portable shape, they go all over the Union. Anywhere they can transport a box of bread they can transport a box of fish. It makes labor for a great many hands.

Q. Now Gloucester has been, as we have seen by its statistics, with certain fluctuations, a place of considerable pecuniary resources justifying a considerable valuation. Will you be so good as to tell the Commission what resources there are in Gloucester to account for the valuation of its property, besides what is traceable to the fishing business? All the work of the merchants in connection with the handling of the fish, we allow to go in as a part of the fishing industry.—A. There are marine railways.

Q. I don't care about that. You say you have half a dozen perhaps, mainly supported by the fishing business.—A. We have others coming from other places for repairs, which makes labor for calkers and painters.

Q. Then you have large vessels that go to the Mediterranean, Portugal, and the West Indies?—A. Some few; not much of that. We have an extensive salt business.

Q. Take the granite, for instance; what is the valuation of the granite business of Gloucester?—A. The industrial pursuits of Gloucester produce a million and a half per annum outside of the fisheries.

Q. Granite is one of the principal ones?—A. Yes.

Q. You have an unlimited supply of granite, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. I mean something that you can cut, that lies in quarries?—A. Yes. Our valuation is largely increased by it.

Q. In the first place there is a great deal of quarrying going on and a great many men employed in quarrying stone?—A. Yes.

Q. That stone is used for pavements in the cities and for house-building?—A. Yes; it finds a good market.

Q. A good many vessels are employed carrying it, or do you send it by rail?—A. No; it is sent by steamers and vessels.

Q. Gloucester exports its granite as prepared from the quarries in the neighborhood?—A. Yes.

Q. Are there any other reasons for the increase in the valuation?—A. Well, summer residences bring in considerable.

Q. You mean persons who do business and whose personal property

and investments are elsewhere?—A. Yes, and who have summer residences in Gloucester.

Q. That is because of the salubrity of the climate, and the ocean scenery? There has been a great deal of that?—A. Yes.

Q. Parts of Gloucester have been built up entirely?—A. Yes.

Q. Manchester and Magnolia?—A. Yes.

Q. Then down towards Eastern Point Light?—A. Well, there are four or five summer boarding-houses there.

Q. Then you have summer boarding-houses, and the hotels in summer depend to a large extent on summer boarders?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, has all that led to an increase in the value of lands?—A. Yes.

Q. The soil is not very fertile, I believe?—A. No. It is rocky.

Q. And, as I recollect, there is not a great quantity of it?—A. No.

Q. Its value, independent of what is given to it as a place of summer residence, would be small?—A. I think it would.

Q. Now, do you recollect anything else besides what you have mentioned—granite, outside business, and summer residence? Are there cases of men in Boston, whose business is in Boston, and whose real *bona-fide* home is there, but who yet reside in Gloucester long enough to pay taxes there?—A. Yes.

Q. In some cases, men of very large fortune?—A. Yes.

Q. A man died there the other day worth a couple of millions or so. He was a manufacturer and general merchant living in Boston?—A. Yes.

Q. One question about insurance. Does that company which you speak of insure to the full value of the vessel?—A. They do not.

Q. Do you recollect to what proportion?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you recollect whether it is three-fourths or seven-eighths?—A. I won't say positively.

Q. But there is a portion that the owner has to pay himself?—A. Yes.

Q. Do they pay every loss, or only over a certain percentage of the value?—A. Only over a certain percentage. I think it is 12 per cent.

Q. At all events, whatever the percentage, there may be a series of losses that the owner has to bear himself, that do not amount to enough to make a partial loss?—A. No. If they are run into, for instance, and damaged by one another, they do not get anything, unless it is over a certain percentage of the value.

Q. Have you a copy of the fishing articles of Gloucester fishermen?—A. No.

Q. Can you state from your own knowledge of their provisions, or how they have ever been construed, as to the legal right of the men to take their own fish, subject to the incumbrances. Do you know how that is?—A. No. The cases of fishermen wanting to take his own fish are very rare indeed. They are always satisfied with the settlement they make with the owners.

Q. We should like to have the book which contains the by-laws of the insurance company; also, a copy of the cod-fishing articles and mackerel-fishing articles. That would be interesting.—A. I will send them.

Q. There was a man named Joseph Campbell, of Souris, Prince Edward Island, examined as a witness. He was asked: "In 1860 what vessel did you go in?" and answered, "the Daniel McPhee." He was asked: "Where did you go?" and answered, "We went to the bay. We landed and took dories and went up to Seven Islands again. There we got 80 barrels at the same place as before. From that we went further up to a place called Boubou, and got twenty or thirty barrels there close

to the shore. We then crossed to the southern side to Griffin's Cove and picked up about twenty or thirty barrels there. We then crossed to Gaspé, then to Bay Chaleurs, picking up more or less every day. We were line-fishing then. We gave up the boats after leaving Seven Islands. We went to North Cape, Prince Edward Island, to finish our trip. We made only one trip and went home." Then he was asked: "What was your catch?" and answered, "We got 280 barrels; that was in 1860." Then he was asked: "Did you take them outside the limits?" and answered, "We did some." Then to the question, "What proportion?" he answered, "Sixty or seventy barrels at the outside." Now you have been requested to examine into this matter. Have you any personal knowledge of the Daniel McPhee?—A. I owned a portion of her in 1860.

Q. You may state from your own knowledge what was the truth of that matter?—A. To the best of my knowledge Joseph Campbell was not in the schooner. She landed 17 barrels of mackerel, and was gone about three months.

Q. That you state of your own knowledge?—A. Yes.

Q. You mean that was the whole trip?—A. That is what she packed out.

Q. Have you looked to see whether this man was in the vessel?—A. I have.

Q. There was no such man?—A. No, sir; I can give you the names of the crew if you want them.

Q. No matter. Now, the same witness is asked, and answers as follows:

Q. In 1861, what did you do?—A. I was in the R. H. Oakes, Captain Nasen.

Q. What time did you come down?—A. The 15th of July.

Q. Was that early?—A. It is not early. It is a fair time. We did not find them bite where we first fished, and we went up to Bay Chaleurs. We got about 120 barrels there—about 90 barrels inside and the rest outside.

Q. That would be 30 barrels outside?—A. Yes, about that. We fished off Miscou and got about 20 or 30 barrels off shore. We then came down the shore to Escuminac, and picked up more or less every day along the shore.

Q. Close in or off?—A. Close in.

Q. Where did you get your next catch?—A. We got 5 or 6 barrels along the shore to the leeward of the island (Prince Edward Island). There we got 70 or 80 barrels in one day, close in.

Q. Within the limits?—A. Between two and three miles.

Q. What was the total result?—A. One hundred and thirty barrels.

Q. What did you do with them?—A. We took them back to Gloucester.

Q. Did you make only one trip?—A. I made only one trip in her. I left her at Gloucester.

Q. What were fish bringing then?—A. They were low. In 1861 mackerel brought from \$12 to \$13 and \$14 a barrel. That was the year the war broke out.

Q. Now, can you tell us about the R. H. Oakes and this man Campbell?—A. The R. H. Oakes in 1861 fitted about the last of June and returned October 26. The vessel packed out 225½ barrels of mackerel, from which Campbell's share was \$39.01.

Q. He was on board that time?—A. Yes; the number ones of this trip sold for \$7; number twos, \$5¹/₁₆; and the number threes at \$3.

Q. Then the same witness is asked, and answers as follows:

Q. Did you fish any more that year?—A. I went home and fished on the home shore; that is, the American shore, in the fall of 1862, in the Daniel McPhee.

Q. What did you catch there?—A. We caught 40 barrels.

Q. Now, what can you tell us about fishing on the American shore in the Daniel McPhee, in the fall of 1862?—A. In 1862 the schooner Daniel McPhee packed out on the fall trip, from October 4 to November 8, 135 barrels of mackerel.

Q. What do you make of his statement that it was 40 barrels?—A. I can't make anything out of it.

Q. Now, there is a man, Ronald McDonald. On page 396 of the testimony he is asked and answers as follows:

Q. Have you fished in American vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. How many years?—A. About seven summers.

Q. When did you first go in an American schooner?—A. About 1859 or 1860.

Q. What is the name of the first vessel?—A. Daniel McPhee, Gloucester, Daniel McPhee, captain.

Q. Where did you fish?—A. We began to fish along the island toward North Cape, Prince Edward Island.

Q. And you fished along at all the usual places?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you catch that year?—A. About 200 barrels for the season.

Q. How far from shore did you usually fish?—A. We fished mostly all over the bay. The principal part of the fish we got on the Canada shore and Cape Breton shore and along the island. We caught a few on Bank Bradley, and some up northward, about Margaree. The principal part we got on the Cape Breton shore.

Now, can you tell us anything about this man in the Daniel McPhee, either in 1859 or 1860?—A. In 1859 she was on the stocks.

Q. Did she afterwards go off under command of Daniel McPhee?—A. Yes.

Q. To the gulf?—A. Yes.

Q. With what result?—A. The first trip was 17 barrels of mackerel, of which Ronald McDonald's share was 35 cents. On the second trip she got 122½, and Ronald McDonald was not one of the crew.

Q. Now, there is a deponent named William H. Molloy, whose affidavit was put in on behalf of the British Government. He says:

The result of my last year's operations is as follows:

Total catch thirty-seven hundred quintals for the season, three Banking trips; value thereof about seventeen thousand dollars; expenses of wages, crew's share of voyage, outfit and provisions was about twelve thousand dollars, leaving a clear profit to the owner of about five thousand dollars. The owner derives a considerable profit also from the difference between the prices he allows the crews for their share of fish, and what it is worth to him in the market, by which he would gain on the quantity above stated about eighteen hundred dollars.

What have you to say to that?—A. I think that Captain Mulloy does not seem to understand his business. In the first place he exaggerates the number of vessels that are on the Banks from Gloucester, and then he goes on and gives an account of the profits. Take his own statement. I have made up a little memorandum. The expenses of the vessel, he says, are \$12,000; shrinkage and cost of curing 3,700 quintals, at \$1 per quintal, is \$3,700, which gives \$15,700. It sells 30,132 quintals, dry, for \$4.80 per quintal, equal to \$14,462.40, leaving a loss of \$1,237.60 instead of \$6,800 gain.

Q. Then you say his own calculation does not produce the results?—A. Not what he states.

Q. In point of fact, has he made his statement correctly?—A. I should say that 3,700 quintals of codfish caught by a vessel one season was a very large catch, and to make three trips, and make a full average each trip, is a remarkably successful year's voyage.

Q. Then he speaks of the difference between the price allowed the crew for their share of the fish, and what it is worth in the market, and says the owner would gain on the quantity above stated about \$1,800. If he takes the value of the fish in the same state in which they are landed they are worth no more to the owners than the crew?—A. No.

Q. Their superior value is the result of labor and skill afterward put upon them?—A. Yes. Fish are never bought in Gloucester, to my knowledge, by the quintal from a vessel. The price of fish last year was \$2.75 per 100 pounds from the vessel, green.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Is not that a quintal?—A. 114 pounds are a quintal.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. He further says:

The owner in my case above cited settled with the crew at two dollars and seventy-five cents per quintal as weighed out of the vessel, the market value of which fish when cured was four dollars eighty cents per quintal; the loss in weight, which is very trifling, and labor in curing, would not cost more than one dollar per quintal.

A. I took his own figures when I made my estimate.

Q. Is that a correct statement?—A. I took his statement for that.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. How do you think it is?—A. I don't suppose it is a great way out of the way, taking into consideration the rent of the wharf and so forth.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. About \$1 per quintal?—A. I should think so. I have not figured it up to get it exactly, but he is not a great way out of the way.

Q. Is there anything else in his statement?—A. He makes a comparison of two vessels; one under the Washington Treaty with the privilege of going into Newfoundland and buying fresh bait, and he reckons that that vessel would make three trips a season, while the vessel not under the Washington Treaty, and restricted from going in there, would only make one trip.

Q. What has the Washington Treaty to do with the right to go in there and buy bait?—A. I don't know.

Q. Suppose it had, what has that to do with three trips?—A. It is a fallacious statement in regard to three trips in comparison with one, because I think our vessels will make as many trips without the privilege of going into Newfoundland as they can with it.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. You have spoken of the statements made by Captain Campbell and Roland McDonald with regard to the vessel called Daniel McPhee?—

A. I have.

Q. Are you owner of the vessel?—A. I was.

Q. And you have your books here?—A. I have not.

Q. When were you requested to look up the accuracy of Campbell's statement—since you came here?—A. No, in Gloucester.

Q. And what did you do in order to test its accuracy? I suppose, regarding that portion where he states where the fish were taken, you have nothing to say?—A. No.

Q. You deny the accuracy of the statement that so many were taken?—A. I do.

Q. Have you a statement of the names of the crew for the year?—A. I have a statement of the crew's names on that first trip. The names are as follows: Daniel McPhee, master; Ronald McDonald, Michael McDonald, H. Sinclair, Alex. Cameron, George M. Reed, Joseph McDonald, Joseph McPhee, John Rogers, Joseph Silva, Daniel McIntire, William Wilder West, Thomas Johnson, Paul McNeil. She landed her dories when she returned with that trip.

Q. Having been requested to examine the accuracy of this statement, did you take the trouble to look at your books for more than one year to see whether there had been a mistake in the year?—A. I did.

Q. What did you find?—A. I did not find any.

Q. Will you give me a statement of the returns made by the vessel

for the year preceding and following?—A. In 1861 he testified he was on the R. H. Oakes, another of my vessels.

Q. I ask you to give me the return of the vessel in 1861?—A. I don't understand what you mean by return.

Q. A statement of the number of barrels of mackerel landed?—A. I can give you the number of barrels of mackerel landed.

Q. And the names of the crew in her?—A. Yes.

Q. I observe you have your book with you?—A. Yes; my trip-book for 1861 and 1862, not for 1860.

Q. You did not bring the book for the year in regard to which we are speaking?—A. The book is not in existence.

Q. How did you get at this?—From my journal.

Q. Did you bring your journal?—A. I did not.

Q. You did not bring the book itself relating to the very year on which this man testified, and the correctness of whose testimony you dispute?—A. No.

Q. You brought a book relating to the following year?—A. The only trip-book I had.

Q. You brought a book for the following year?—A. For the following two years.

Q. Did it not strike you as a little curious that, when asked to dispute the accuracy of a man's statement, you should dispute it and bring a book relating to the following year to that in question, and leave the book at home that would settle the question?—A. I thought that my evidence and the list of the crew would be enough. I am on my oath.

Q. So was Campbell. Why did you bring the book for the next year? You were not asked to verify or dispute any statement for the next year?—A. No.

Q. Why did you omit to bring the book for the year respecting which you were asked to contradict Campbell's statement?—A. I brought the trip-book which shows the catches of mackerel.

Q. You say you lost the previous trip-book?—A. He was in another vessel of mine afterward.

Q. If you have lost that trip-book, how are you able to tell exactly what catch he made?—A. It is entered in my journal.

Q. Is each man's account transferred to the journal?—A. Yes.

Q. So that the journal would have done just as well as the trip-book?—A. It is a heavier and more bulky book.

Q. But it would have all the information?—A. I presume it would. I could have brought it, but I had Mr. Steele's books, which are very heavy.

Q. I notice that Capt. Joseph Campbell, of Souris, who was examined very nearly the beginning of this Commission, and Ronald McDonald, who was called toward the close, there being, I think, four or five weeks between the times at which they were called, testified on oath the facts respecting that vessel, and with the exception of the number of barrels spoken to by them, on which there is only a small difference, they agree with regard to the trip, the places where the mackerel were taken, and everything?—A. Yes.

Q. I fancy there must be some explanation of the matter, and there must be a mistake about the year?—A. Here is the record for 1861. The vessel was not built in 1859.

Q. Campbell said:

We went to the bay. We landed and took dories and went up to the Seven Islands again. There we got 80 barrels at the same place as before. From that we went further up to a place called Boubon and got twenty or thirty barrels there close to the

shore. We then crossed to the southern side, to Griffin's Cove, and picked up about twenty or thirty barrels there. We then crossed to Gaspé, then to Bay Chaleurs, picking up more or less every day. We were line-fishing then. We gave up the boats after leaving Seven Islands. We went to North Cape, Prince Edward Island, to finish our trip. We made only one trip, and went home.

Q. What light will the book for 1861 throw on the matter?—A. It merely gives the names of the crew and what they caught. The vessel was not built in 1859.

Q. One of the witnesses stated that fishermen sometimes enter themselves under different names. Is that a fact within your knowledge?—A. They sometimes do.

Q. It is possible Campbell may have entered himself under a different name in that vessel?—A. That is true.

Q. Is this the return of the trips into the bay, or of the trips on your shore?—A. The trips to the bay; on the other side is a return of shore trips.

Q. Are those Mr. Steele's books?—A. No; my own.

Q. How are you able to state at this distance of time which refers to bay and which to shore trips, with the trips not divided?—A. By the time of year.

Q. The shore trips will be after the vessels return in October?—A. Yes.

Q. It seems by this that the vessel took 80 barrels on the shore. That is just what Campbell said:

Q. Only 40 barrels. That was in 1861 that you got 80 barrels there in the fall trip, and in 1862 you got 40 barrels?—A. Yes.

That is right, within six barrels?—A. In the fall of 1861 was he in the Daniel McPhee? Is his name among the crew for that shore-trip?

Q. His name does not appear here (in the book). If he was there he must have been under another name?—A. I don't think he was in her in the fall trip. Does he say he was with Captain Hunter?

Mr. DAVIES. The preceding questions were the following:

Q. Did you fish any more that year?—A. I went home and fished on the home-shore, that is, the American shore, in the fall of 1862, in the Daniel McPhee.

Q. What did you catch there?—A. We caught 40 barrels.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Do you know Campbell?—A. I don't remember him; I would know him if I saw him.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Do you know whether the Daniel McPhee made more than one shore-trip in the fall of 1862?—A. In 1862, from July 27 to October 4, she was bay-fishing; from October 4 to November 8, shore-fishing.

Q. Do your vessels, fishing on your shore, make short or long trips?—A. Sometimes short and sometimes long.

Q. If the vessel made two trips, his statement may be perfectly consistent with yours?—A. She was only employed in 1862 one month and four days on the shore.

Q. He says about three weeks. Is it not possible she may have made two trips?—A. I don't know.

Q. Is Captain McPhee at Gloucester?—A. He is dead.

Q. What is your impression with regard to the statements made by these two men, corroborating each other substantially, and made at different times?—A. My impression is that they are mistaken altogether in regard to their catch and where they fished.

Q. How would you know where they fished; you were not there?—
A. No.

Q. Therefore you cannot know personally; why, then, do you make that statement?—A. Because, in the fall of the year, on the second trip, they never got it at Seven Islands with dories, and she landed her dories when she came home on her first trip.

Q. Campbell says they commenced the trip at Seven Islands; are you prepared to contradict that?—A. I am.

Q. In what way?—A. Because she returned home having caught only 17 barrels.

Q. I am speaking regarding the places where the fish were caught.—
A. She left her dories at Gloucester after the first voyage. They could not get 280 barrels with her dories when they were on my wharf.

Q. I am asking you with reference to places where they fished. You say you can contradict Campbell's statement; how do you contradict it?—A. I cannot contradict it from personal knowledge.

Q. How can you state you believe it to be incorrect?—A. From evidence I know is in existence in regard to it.

Q. To what evidence do you refer?—A. I refer to a deposition in the hands of counsel.

Q. You are speaking in regard to some deposition in the hands of counsel, and you base your evidence on that?—A. I do not.

Q. That is the affidavit of another man; put that aside at present. From your own knowledge, can you pretend to say that Campbell's statement is not correct as to where he fished?—A. I cannot believe it is true when a man says he fished in a certain place, when he says they caught one barrel here and eighty barrels there, and I know the vessel only packed out 17 barrels; I cannot believe the statement to be true.

Q. It is unfortunate that the trip-book for 1860 is not here?—A. I regret it more than anything else. My little girl asked me last year for a book, and I cut the leaves out, never supposing it would be wanted.

Q. Can you tell me of any other vessel in 1860 which returned from a trip in Bay Chaleurs with 17 barrels or anything like that?—A. The schooner Annah, another of my vessels, returned from the bay with 41 barrels.

Q. What size was she?—A. She was about 50 tons.

Q. What time of the year did she go into the bay?—A. She went 5th July, and returned 12th September.

Q. What was the highest catch made by any of your vessels that year?—A. 336½ barrels.

Q. Will you explain to the Commission what this statement purports to be?—A. A table showing the voyages of my vessels during 1860, 1861, and 1862.

Witness handed in the following statement:

Table showing the vessels engaged in the cod, halibut, and mackerel fisheries in the years 1860, 1861, and 1862.
[Compiled from the books of the firm of Sinclair & Low and David W. Low, by David W. Low, September, 1877.]

Name of vessel.	Year.	Tons.	Hands.	Value of vessel.	Halibut and cod fishing.	From—	To—	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	(Crew's share.)	First trip mackerel- eling.	Hands.	Value.	Vessel's share.	Second trip mackerel- ing.	Hands.	Value.
Schr. Cynisca	1860	.....	.....	\$3,730	Cod-fishing and 10 trips trawling.	Feb. 17	Oct. 23	.....	\$3,866 63	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do.	1861	.....	10	.....	Cod-fishing and trawling, 7 trips.	Mar. 21	Oct. 26	\$2,522 45	1,075 64	.....	Oct. 26 to Nov. 18, 23 days, shore.	11	\$212 04	\$61 27	.....	.....	.....
Schr. C. C. Davis	1860	.....	.....	3,300	do	Jan. 21	July 5	.....	1,633 35	.....	July 10 to Sept. 11, 2 m. 1 d., Gulf St. L.	51	.....	562 06	Sept. 12 to Oct. 13, 20 d., 13, Am. shore.	13	20 d.
Do.	1861	.....	10	.....	Cod-fishing and trawling, 6 trips.	Jan. 22	July 11	2,218 23	985 19	.....	July 11 to Oct. 24, 3 mos. 13 d., Gulf.	15	230 d.	427 01	Oct. 26 to Nov. 12, 34 d., 28, shore.	12	34 d.
Do.	1862	.....	9	.....	Cod-fishing and trawling, 8 trips.	Feb. 4	July 11	3,377 67	1,793 22	.....	July 11 to Oct. 2, 2 mos. 21 d., Gulf.	15	263 d.	936 37	Oct. 3 to Oct. 18, 12 d., shore.	12	132 d.
Schr. Annah	1860	.....	2,000	.....	Cod-fishing, 6 trips Georges.	Mar. 5	July 1	.....	689 56	.....	July 5 to Sept. 17, 2 m. 7 d., Gulf St. L.	12	41	270 71	Sept. 14 to Oct. 8, 12 d., shore.	12	33 d.
Schr. Daniel McPhoe	1860	.....	1	3,500	Cod-fishing and trawling, 3 trips.	Mar. 17	June 2	.....	1,047 76	.....	June 13 to Sept. 12, 3 m., Gulf of St. L.	14	17	89 52	Sept. 12 to Nov. 14, 12 d., 19, Gulf.	14	12 d.
Do.	1861	.....	10	.....	Cod-fishing and trawling, 3 mos. 4 days, 8 trips.	Dec. 24	Sept. 28	3,210 16	1,409 31	.....	Oct. 9 to Oct. 14, shore, 5 days.	13	86 d.	170 50	Oct. 14 to Nov. 13, 8 d., 15, shore.	13	8 d.
Do.	1862	.....	10	.....	Trawling, 6 trips.	.....	July 21	2,525 19	1,155 13	.....	July 27 to Oct. 4, Gulf, 2 mos. 7 d.	14	244	869 80	Oct. 4 to Nov. 8, 14 d., shore.	14	13 d.
Schr. Ella F. Bartlett	1860	.....	3,600	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	June 1 (21) to Sept. 12, 12, Gulf, 3 m. 27 d.	14	207	1,529 56	Sept. 21 to Nov. 14, 23 d., 21, shore.	14	23 d.
Do.	1861	.....	9	.....	Cod-fishing and trawling, 4 trips.	Mar. 4	June 21	2,157 90	994 96	.....	June 21 to Sept. 30, 3 mos., Gulf.	14	275	402 57	Sept. 27 to Nov. 14, 18 d., 13, shore.	14	18 d.
Do.	1862	.....	9	.....	Trawling, 7 trips.	Feb. —	July 8	2,554 77	1,162 06	.....	July 15 to Nov. 17, 4 mos., Gulf.	14	35	1,222 44	.....	.....	.....
Schr. Electric Flash	1860	115 16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	May 10 (29) to Nov. 1, 1, 5 mos., Gulf.	10	310	1,972 70	Nov. 3 to Nov. 16, 6 d., 23, shore.	16	6 d.
Do.	1861	.....	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	July 10 to Sept. 5, 1 m. 25 d., Gulf.	17	336 d.	441 82	Sept. 7 to Nov. 9, 15 d., Gulf, 2 m. 1 d.	15	259 d.
Do.	1862	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	June 16 to Aug. 28, 2 mos. 12 d., Gulf.	15	385	745 50	Aug. 28 to Oct. 16, 26 d., 18, Gulf, 1 m. 20 d.	16	26 d.
Schr. R. H. Oakes	1861	.....	4,200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	May 11 to June 21, American shore.	14	57	188 75	June 21 to Oct. 15, 25 d., 20, Am. 3d. Gulf.	15	25 d.
Schr. I. G. Curtis	1862	140	6,500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Aug. 1 to Oct. 13, Gulf.	17	407 d.	2,975 44	Oct. 13 to Nov. 15, 11 d., shore.	15	11 d.

Time fitting is included.

Table showing the vessels engaged in the cod, halibut, and mackerel fisheries in the years 1860, 1861, and 1862—Continued.

Name of vessel.	Year.	Vessel's share.	Third trip mackerelling.	Hands.	Barrels.	Value.	Vessel's share.	Total number bar- rels Gulf.	Total value Gulf catch.	Total value shore catch.	Total value vessels whole catch.	Amount of vessel's credits for the year.	Amount of vessel's bills for the year.	Excess of vessel's share of catch over bills.	Deficit of vessel's share to pay bills.	Remarks.	
Schr. Cynisca	1860										\$3,866 03	\$3,925 01	\$3,275 43	\$649 58		Vessel new in 1859 (December).	
Do.	1861									\$212 04	1,136 89	1,186 64	1,900 88		\$714 24	Lost Dec., 1861, with all hands.	
Schr. C. C. Davis	1860	\$1,383 64	Oct. 13 to Nov. 24, Am. shore.	203½			\$1,312 50	54				3,505 10	2,273 30	1,231 80			
Do.	1861	92 93						238½	\$1,259 29	209 75		1,740 12	2,325 36		585 24		
Do.	1862	349 83	Oct. 18 to Nov. 17, shore.	11 145	\$1,262 48	515 46	263½	263½	2,018 57	800 87						Peter Sinclair, owner and agent.	
Schr. Annah	1860	168 24	Oct. 8 to Nov. 22, shore.	137½			929 92	41	170			1,713 09	1,662 32	50 77			
Schr. Daniel McPhee	1860	700 10						139				2,116 14	3,235 00		1,118 86	Vessel new in 1860.	
Do.	1861	242 83						174½		1,141 74		2,257 11	2,326 25		69 14		
Do.	1862	412 03						244	2,164 34	1,034 56		2,446 41	2,221 99	224 42			
Schr. Ella F. Bartlett	1860	357 91						207				2,744 91	2,328 69	416 22		Vessel new in 1860.	
Do.	1861	380 66						275	1,359 72	1,061 79		2,141 35	2,057 66	83 69			
Do.	1862							325	3,122 44			2,483 49	2,145 29	338 20		Jas. S. Ayer, own- er and agent.	
Schr. Electric Flash	1860	195 79						310	2,173 05							Do.	
Do.	1861	892 42						585½	2,879 02							Do.	
Do.	1862	1,230 08	Oct. 18 to Nov. 15, shore.	14 72½	573 06	234 96	751	751	3,638 86	573 06						Vessel new in 1861, was lost on New- foundland voy- age.	
Schr. R. H. Oakes	1861	518 11						255	1,471 27	188 75		550 07	805 40				
Schr. I. G. Curtis	1862	356 48						407½	2,975 44	356 48		1,521 60	1,189 16	332 44			
								4,088 ½	2,309½								584 50 in 3 years.
								Average, 291 barrels yearly.									
								8 vessels 3 years.									
								28,331 04	27,746 73	3,327 31	2,742 81						

Q. When was it prepared?—A. It was prepared before I left home.

Q. What was the tonnage of the Daniel McPhee?—A. About 60 tons, I think.

Q. You prepared this statement yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. From your own books?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you read the column of catches in which the 17 barrels appeared?—A. 54, 230 $\frac{3}{4}$, 263 $\frac{1}{4}$, 41, 17, 86 $\frac{1}{4}$, 244, 207, 275, 325, 310, 326 $\frac{1}{2}$, 385, 57. They are shore and gulf mixed.

Q. Will you take out the shore?—A. 57, 86 $\frac{1}{4}$.

Q. The catches on your shore appear to be small compared with the others?—A. The 86 $\frac{1}{4}$ barrels were caught in five days off our shores.

Q. But the small catches appear to have been taken on your shore; the 300-barrel catches you have read were taken in the bay?—A. Not all of them.

Q. I asked you to read those which were caught on your shores; you did read them; were not the 300-barrel catches taken in the bay?—A. Yes; those were caught in the gulf.

Q. Don't you think it is more probable that, as your trip-book is lost, which would be conclusive evidence on that point, you are mistaken as to 17 barrels having been caught in the gulf on that trip, because Campbell's name does not appear on the list of the men who were in the vessel when 17 barrels were taken?—A. No; I am positive he was not in the vessel in the gulf that trip.

Q. Could he have deliberately coined the statement that he was in the gulf and took that number of barrels? His name does not appear in the list of the crew when the 17 barrels were taken?—A. It does not appear in the list.

Q. You explained toward the close of your examination the right of fishermen to take their fish and sell them elsewhere; when a vessel returns to Gloucester, does not the merchant, when the fish are landed, pack them?—A. Yes.

Q. That is a matter with which the fishermen, as fishermen, have nothing to do?—A. Nothing to do with packing out.

Q. Therefore, if he were allowed to take his fish, he would have to pay the merchant the packing charges?—A. Yes.

Q. They would amount to \$2 a barrel?—A. That was the cost in certain years; it is now \$1.75.

Q. So that practically it is never done?—A. No.

Q. It is also well understood that the merchant will have a lien on the fish caught for any advances made the fishermen?—A. Yes.

Q. The practical working of the system is that the fisherman does not take his fish elsewhere?—A. I don't know of any case where they did.

Q. One of the witnesses from Gloucester stated here that it was the custom for the ship-merchants to agree among themselves as to the price they will allow the fishermen for the fish when they pack out. Is that correct?—A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. How do the merchants arrange? Does one pay \$10, another \$11, and another \$13, and are different prices paid to fishermen for their fish at the same port?—A. For mackerel?

Q. Yes.—A. No; because trips are hardly ever sold at the same prices three days running.

Q. I am speaking with regard to the price the merchant allows the fishermen; whether the merchants agree among themselves to allow so much?—A. The crew get the price at which the whole trip is sold.

Q. But the whole trip of mackerel may be held over for a year, sales depending on the market?—A. The crew would hold over with him.

Q. Do you mean to say that, if a crew came in in October, they would not be paid when the packing out took place?—A. No.

Q. They might hold over till next spring?—A. If there is not a market for the fish the fish cannot be sold, so the crew cannot be settled with, and the cargo remains on the wharf till it is sold.

Q. Don't they agree on a price? Does not the merchant buy the fish from the men?—A. Sometimes they will settle in that way, and the merchant will take them at a price.

Q. Did you ever know a case where a cargo has remained on a wharf all winter waiting for a rise in price?—A. I do; I had several vessels in 1860, the trips of which I kept over.

Q. And did not pay the men?—A. Not all of them; some of them kept their fish in store, and I did not settle with them.

Q. How many of them did so?—A. I could not tell.

Q. Is it the general and invariable rule?—A. That was an exceptional year. The usual rule is to settle the trips as soon as possible after they arrive.

Q. When they do settle, how do they arrive at the price; do the merchants agree on a price?—A. Nothing of the kind.

Q. It is so with regard to codfish; it has been so testified here—that the merchants agree on a certain price they will allow their fishermen for green fish?—A. Yes.

Q. That is the rule with regard to codfish?—A. I cannot say it is the rule. They may do it; I don't know. I notice in Mr. Steele's book variations in price.

Q. I know they pay different prices in different years. Suppose 89 vessels arrived to-day in Gloucester and packed out and paid the men, and the vessels were owned by eight or nine different persons, would the men be paid different prices?—A. They would be; that, is if the 89 trips sold for different prices. If all arrived on one day, they would be all settled with at the price of mackerel that day.

Q. Suppose the mackerel were not sold that day?—A. He settles at the market-price.

Q. At a sum they agree upon?—A. Yes. There is always a market-price for mackerel, well understood.

Q. There is a market-price well understood at which the merchant pays the crews?—A. You misunderstand it. Let me explain it. In Gloucester there is great competition for trips of mackerel, and four or five buyers come down as soon as a trip is in, after the trip of mackerel. They will bid for the trip, and the one that bids highest takes it at that price. That is the usual way of selling mackerel at Gloucester. If the fitter and owner wants the mackerel himself to send to his customers, he says he will take them himself at the highest bid.

Q. Is it offered at auction?—A. It is offered among the buyers. Sometimes there is great competition among them.

Q. Take such a firm as George Steele. When one of their vessels comes in, would they sell the fish to the buyers?—A. Yes.

Q. Does he not pack himself?—A. Yes, he always packs.

Q. He would not sell the fish until they were packed?—A. No. Sometimes he sells them as soon as they arrive. He says, "I will sell this trip for so much after they are packed out."

Q. What is his practice; is it to sell to the buyers, or to pack it, purchase it, and sell it himself?—A. To sell it to the buyers.

Q. There is a class of men known specially as buyers?—A. Yes.

Q. Is not Mr. Steele what you call a fish-merchant?—A. He is not a fish-buyer.

Q. Does he sell his own fish that his vessels have caught?—A. He does.

Q. Upon the question of insurance, you explained that the insurers would not be liable below a certain percentage. I did not understand whether you knew what the percentage was.—A. I do not. I believe it to be 12 per cent.

Q. I want to know positively. Do you wish that to go in your evidence as your statement that it is 12 per cent.?—A. Not that it is, but that I believe it to be so from hearsay.

Q. Does it differ from ordinary policies?—A. Yes, our risks are different.

Q. Do you know that your policies differ from ordinary policies about the percentage—about the percentage below which the insurer will not be liable?—A. I do not know that they differ.

Q. I understand that you don't wish to make a positive statement on that point?—A. I don't wish to make a positive statement on anything I don't understand.

Q. Do you know the percentage below which ordinary companies don't pay—is it 5 per cent.?—A. I don't know.

Q. In answer to Mr. Dana, you made what struck me as a curious statement—that to raise money on mortgage on a vessel you had to pay a very high rate of interest?—A. A higher rate than on real estate.

Q. What interest would you have to pay?—A. I know a mortgage on a vessel would bring 8 per cent.

Q. That applies to all vessels, does it not?—A. Yes.

Q. Not specially to fishing-vessels?—A. I am talking about fishing-vessels.

Q. With regard to other vessels, engaged in general trade, what would be the rate of interest at which you could raise money on them?—A. I don't know.

Q. For you know anything it may be the same as on fishing-vessels. Do you know or not that it is higher on general trading-vessels than on fishing-vessels?—A. No.

Q. In point of fact you don't know anything about it?—A. No.

Q. You don't know from practical knowledge that it is 8 per cent. on fishing-vessels?—A. No.

Q. Your information on that is not such as will enable you to give evidence under oath?—A. It is not positive.

Q. You spoke in regard to the depreciation of those fishing-vessels, and I understood your evidence to relate to all shipping?—A. To fishing-vessels generally.

Q. The same remarks you made with regard to the depreciation of fishing-vessels are applicable to all shipping?—A. I don't think so.

Q. Why not?—A. Because the wear and tear on fishing-vessels is more than on any other class of vessels.

Q. I will limit the question to a vessel employed in the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the months when the fishery is prosecuted there—June, July, August, September, and October. Will the wear and tear of a fishing-vessel in the gulf during those months be more than the wear and tear of a trading-vessel?—A. I should say it was.

Q. Give me your reason.—A. The Gulf of St. Lawrence in the fall is a very rough place.

Q. You will remember that the fishing months I gave you were from

June to November, not including November?—A. The greatest loss of fishing vessels in the gulf was in August.

Q. The depreciation on a vessel engaged in fishing in the gulf during those months is as great or greater than that of a vessel engaged in ordinary trade?—A. I think so.

Q. Can you give me your reason?—A. The reason is that the vessel is engaged in the fishing business and is on a dangerous route.

Q. You think the gulf is dangerous?—A. I do.

Q. What has the danger of the gulf to do with the wear and tear of vessels?—A. The wear and tear of a vessel comprises injuries she may receive in a gale or by being stranded.

Q. The stranding would perhaps come in another valuation. The insurers would most likely have to pay for that?—A. Perhaps so and perhaps not.

Q. Don't you think they would?—A. According to what the loss would be. The insurance is 4 per cent. for four months. Why should the rate of insurance be so high if there was no danger of wear and tear to the vessel?

Q. I don't know. Do they insure the vessels for the season or for trips?—A. For the trips. That is what they charge—4 per cent. in the gulf, one per cent. per month.

Q. What is the insurance of a vessel going to George's Bank?—A. I don't know.

Q. You were posted yourself in regard to it?—A. I never posted myself on that point.

Q. Take vessels fishing off your own coast. With regard to wear and tear, don't you think the wear and tear of vessels fishing off your own coast would be more than that of vessels fishing in the gulf during the months they fish there?—A. I do not.

Q. Not in the winter season?—A. We fish on our shores all the year round.

Q. Is not the wear and tear greater on your coast than in the gulf during the summer months when they fish there?—A. I should say it was.

Q. You spoke of the profits made out of fish, after they had been landed, by the fish merchants. Will you explain what the profits are?—A. On mackerel all the profits are in the packing.

Q. And how much per barrel profit is there on that?—A. From thirty cents to fifty cents.

Q. A little higher than that, is it not?—A. No; I don't think it is.

Q. Have you ever packed yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. Much?—A. I packed during three years.

Q. So you are able to tell about packing.—A. Packing was then done at \$1.15 per barrel. Now it is \$1.75.

Q. Did it pay at \$1.15?—A. Yes; barrels then were very much lower.

Q. But it left a profit then?—A. Yes.

Q. Have barrels risen in proportion to the rise in the charge for packing?—A. Yes.

Q. The same proportion?—A. About the same proportion, I think.

Q. Then, do I understand that the increased cost of packing is solely due to the increased cost of barrels? Is there not a larger profit made on packing?—A. I don't know but what they may make a larger profit. Prices went up during the war, and they remained so till, I think, last year, when they dropped.

Q. In what other ways have the merchants got profits upon provisions furnished to the families of fishermen?—A. To the vessels.

Q. Have you thought over since yesterday the question that was asked you, as to the profits they charge on supplies furnished to the families of the fishermen?—A. I have not given it a thought since yesterday.

Q. Perhaps you did not give it much thought before yesterday?—A. I only gave it from my knowledge of the business.

Q. What would you be prepared to say to-day is the profit they make on supplies furnished to the families of fishermen?—A. About ten per cent.

Q. Not more than that?—A. It would not be over that.

Q. You know that sometimes they lose the supplies?—A. I know they do.

Q. And don't they make sufficient profit to cover all that?—A. I don't think they do.

Q. You think they are not shrewd enough men to make the charge sufficient to insure them against loss?—A. They might.

Q. You don't know exactly. Have you examined their books and prices so as to be enabled to testify accurately on that point?—A. No; I have not.

Q. You volunteer what you assume is correct?—A. I give it from my recollection of my business in 1861 and 1862.

Q. I understand they agree with wholesale dealers, to have the goods furnished at wholesale prices, and the fishermen are charged the retail prices?—A. Yes.

Q. The difference between the wholesale price and retail price you don't know?—A. I don't know.

Q. The difference is the profit which the merchant makes?—A. Yes, and takes the risk.

Q. You were town clerk of Gloucester for some time, and are acquainted, of course, with the valuations, more or less, of the different merchants?—A. Yes.

Q. You spoke of two or three names as being leading men?—A. Yes.

Q. What are those men assessed at?—A. I could not tell; I don't recollect. As town clerk I would not know.

Q. You seem to have filled numerous offices, and, no doubt, filled them efficiently?—A. The assessors assess for taxes and keep their own books.

Q. From the knowledge you have gained in looking over the assessors' book, cannot you state what a man like Mr. Leighton is taxed for?—A. I guess he is taxed at—

Q. Take Mr. Leighton's firm.—A. I suppose it is assessed at \$30,000.

Q. What is that on?—A. That is on the valuation of his real estate and vessels.

Q. How does that compare with its value?—A. In Gloucester they tax at a little over three-fourths of the value.

Q. Of its cash value or ordinary market value?—A. Of the ordinary market value, as it is considered. If you force such a property as Mr. Leighton's to a sale, it would not bring anything like its value.

Q. What other leading men did you mention?—A. Dennis & Ayer.

Q. About what would be their valuation?—A. I don't know.

Q. Take Mr. Steele; what would his firm be taxed at?—A. Mr. Steele is probably taxed at \$20,000.

Q. Would you put the four leading men in Gloucester down as worth from \$20,000 to \$30,000 each?—A. I don't think anybody in the fishing business in Gloucester is worth over \$30,000.

Q. What are they assessed at?—A. I don't know. I have not seen

the assessors' books for a good many years; I cannot tell. I have formed my judgment from what I think they are worth.

Q. How many vessels is Mr. Steele running?—A. On an average, nine vessels.

Q. They would range from what price?—A. They would average \$5,000 each.

Q. What is his real estate worth?—A. About \$10,000.

Q. What are the premises where he lives worth, another \$10,000?—A. I should think his house is worth \$5,000; perhaps that is a little high.

Q. Those amounts would reach \$60,000; you told me he is put down as being assessed at \$20,000?—A. That may be.

Q. Why have you stated that you believed him to be assessed at about \$20,000?—A. I have stated his valuation, perhaps, high.

Q. Do you think there could be that difference between you and the assessors?—A. There might be.

Q. Do you really think you could be, or the assessors could be, so far in error?—A. I should think George Steele is worth about \$35,000.

Q. You mean after paying all his debts?—A. I don't know what his debts are.

Q. You mean after paying his debts?—A. I mean the face value of his property is \$35,000. I don't know what his debts may be.

Q. How do you reconcile the statements?—A. I probably set a high value on his vessel property and other property.

Q. You have already put in the vessels at a valuation of \$5,000 each under the statement you made under oath yesterday.—A. I know he had some very expensive vessels.

Q. When you were making a statement of Mr. Steele's business, showing how much he had lost or gained, you put down the vessels as worth \$5,000 each?—A. I did so. That is what I took as an average, because some cost \$8,000 and some less.

Q. And in order to show what he gained or lost, you charged interest at 5 per cent. on that amount?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, you may be all astray about the valuation?—A. No; I don't say I am all astray. You asked me for the assessor's valuation, and I could not give it, and I answered from my judgment.

Q. How do you reconcile the statements?—A. I can reconcile it in this way: If Mr. Steele's property was sold to-day it would not bring more than \$35,000; that is the face value of it.

Q. That is, if forced into the market to-day?—A. Yes; it would not bring more than \$35,000.

Q. Don't you know that if a large quantity of any kind of property, not fishing property alone, is forced into the market the price is sure to fall?—A. You want anything of that kind set at a cash value, don't you?

Q. Suppose you force a lot of stock on the market, more than the public want, will it not necessarily run the price down?—A. It would run low.

Q. I am not talking about forced sales, but of the assessed value, as sworn to by the assessors, and as you as a practical man would value it. How do you reconcile the discrepancy between your statement of yesterday, when you placed each vessel at \$5,000, and that statement that you do not believe the face value of Mr. Steele's property, irrespective of what he owns, is worth more than \$20,000 or \$30,000?—A. I took the average of vessels for 19 years. I did not take them at what they are worth to-day.

Q. I think you did. I think you allowed a large sum for depreciation.

When you were making up the statement to show the fishing business, you took insurance 107 vessels, \$535,000, that is \$5,000 each vessel?—

A. Yes.

Q. You charge insurance on those vessels at that rate, \$21,000?—A. That is what he probably paid.

Q. You then charged against the earnings of the vessels the interest on that capital sum, \$535,000 at 7 per cent?—A. Yes.

Q. You then charged taxes on \$160,000?—A. One hundred and sixty thousand dollars for seventeen years.

Q. And then you charged depreciation on the vessels, \$29,000?—A. Yes.

Q. So if you charge depreciation and interest you keep up the capital stock to where it originally was?—A. The depreciation is wear and tear to a large extent, and what are expenses of the vessel—sails and rigging, painting and repairing.

Q. I recall your attention to the fact that I asked you what was the depreciation of a vessel in one year, and you gave \$1,200?—A. Yes.

Q. I ask you what would be the depreciation yearly for the next five years?—A. Probably not more than \$800.

Q. You gave your estimate yesterday of Mr. Steele's worth and the value of his vessels—are you inclined to-day to withdraw it?—A. No, I hold to it.

Q. If you take off one-half of the principal the interest would be reduced one-half?—A. The value of the vessels would be \$45,000—9 vessels averaging \$5,000 each; and if the wharf was sold I think that it would bring \$8,000, a fair valuation in my opinion.

Q. Did you not just now state that this wharf was worth \$10,000?—A. I know I did; but his wharf is, together with another part, divided in the middle, and this would not make it so valuable as other wharf property.

Q. You change this valuation, then, from \$10,000 to \$8,000?—A. I should think that \$8,000 would be a fair valuation, and then I should set down the house at \$4,000.

Q. You are coming down on that valuation very much?—A. I said \$5,000, but if it was put up at auction it would not bring that much.

Q. Does he own any other property besides the 9 vessels, the wharf, and the house?—A. That is all the property it shows on the face.

Q. Does he own stock of any kind?—A. I do not know.

Q. Has he no capital invested?—A. I do not know, but I presume that he owns ten shares in the Gloucester Bank. He is one of the directors, and he must have ten shares to qualify himself for being a director.

Q. I ask you frankly what do you believe; has he or has he not money invested in other public works in Gloucester?—D. I do not think so. I hardly think that he has.

Q. Does he own goods or anything else?—A. He has goods in his store, but our outfitters do not keep a large stock of goods in stock.

Q. What valuation would you put on this stock?—A. I should think that \$1,500 would cover the value of the stock which he keeps on hand.

Q. Will you include the shares in your estimate?—A. I will do so.

Q. What would you put it at on the whole?—A. \$45,000.

Q. How do you make that out?—A. Five times nine make \$45,000. I make it \$60,000, and three-quarters of it makes \$45,000 as the cash value.

Q. Then this account which you have made up is not put down at the cash or real value, but at a fancy value?—A. It is put down at the

average value of his vessels, taken for the time that they have been running.

Q. What right had you to charge interest and insurance on this property at an amount largely disproportionate to the real value? Don't you see that you reduce the profits immensely by that mode of proceeding?—A. That is the face value of the property; if he pays interest on more than he ought to, that is his loss.

Q. But you don't pretend to say that he is paying the interest you made up in this sum; this is your estimate?—A. Well, it is an estimate based on the original cost of the vessels, and the average cost.

Q. I will ask you frankly if you knew what his vessels were worth, and what you ought to put down there? Is it fair to make up the sum and charge interest on \$535,000?—A. I think so, because I have charged nothing for losses.

Q. I beg your pardon; this does not allow the possibility of risk. You have insured the capital invested, charged interest at the rate of 7 per cent. on that capital, allowed $14\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for depreciation of vessels, and charged insurance upon the charter and outfits, and it is a dead certainty?—A. That is true; insurance is charged on the charter.

Q. There is a dead certainty and no possibility of risk?—A. That is true, as the statement goes; yes.

Q. Do you think that is fair, when he is running no risk, to ask him to pay insurance on the value of the property far beyond what it is worth? In that way you reduce the profits down to nothing?—A. Yes.

Q. Suppose you readjust that sum, and make up the sum on the real value of these things, and charge interest on the real value of the vessels, and insurance and taxes on real value?—A. I should then have to charge more for depreciation.

Q. Are you aware what percentage you charged for depreciation?—A. I did not charge so much as it would be.

Q. Are you aware what percentage you charged in this account?—A. No; I did not reckon any percentage.

Q. It seems to me to look like $14\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., at least?—A. For depreciation? Well.

Q. Do you think that $14\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is a large sum, or not, to allow for depreciation?—A. I do not think that it is a large sum.

Q. Why?—A. Because it is very expensive running a vessel.

Q. But running a vessel has nothing to do with depreciation?—A. Why not.

Q. Explain how it is. I cannot conceive of the connection?—A. The wear and tear of the vessel is an expense, and it costs something to keep her in repair and running order.

Q. That is for repairs?—A. Well, that is part of the depreciation account. Can you find repairs there anywhere?

Q. Part of it is depreciation account. It embraces both the actual repairs and the actual depreciation which arises from the vessel getting older?—A. That is it.

Q. You stated that the \$800 is the amount of depreciation after the first year for the following five years; do you still adhere to that?—A. Yes; that would be about right, I should think. If anything it would be more, because Procter's vessel shows about \$1,200 or \$1,400 expense in this regard.

Q. That is in the statement which you have put in to-day?—A. Yes.

Q. I see in it that \$79 is charged for tinware and \$48 for anchor lost, but is that an ordinary expense? It is an extraordinary loss? It does not often happen?—A. I have known vessels lose two anchors a year.

Q. I dare say, but is it ordinary wear and tear?—A. Why not? It is part of the depreciation.

Q. Is it an ordinary loss? Is it fair to charge the loss of an anchor which occurs during one year, as a general charge against a vessel for the year's depreciation?—A. No.

Q. You have done it here.—A. How?

Q. In this very statement, in which you make an expenditure of \$1,823.—A. I did not call it \$1,800, but about \$1,200 or \$1,400 for that vessel.

Q. I find it marked down here as \$1,823?—A. Yes.

Q. And you think it would be about \$1,400?—A. You misunderstand me about this; insurance is set down at \$539, and then there is another item.

Q. Commission for skipper?—A. How large is that?

Q. \$465.—A. And then there is the cost of tinware.

Q. But that is too large an amount for an ordinary charge. You do not supply \$79 worth of tinware every year or the tenth of it?—A. O, yes.

Q. Every year?—A. Yes.

Q. How much would you take off from this item?—A. An owner would consider himself fortunate if an offer was made him to supply his vessel with tinware for \$10 a year.

Q. How much will you take off from the \$79?—A. \$60.

Q. And how much from the lost-anchor item?—A. Not a cent.

Q. You charge that every year as a part of the expenses?—A. Yes; I guess that Steele's expenses average an anchor every year.

Q. Then there are railway fees?—A. Yes; but that I don't take off.

Q. You consider that a yearly expense?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Explain what this is for.—A. It is for the marine railway for repairs.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. You put down \$63 for lumber for ice-house; is that required every year?—A. Yes; more or less.

Q. Do you build new ice-houses every year?—A. No, not new; but some expenditure is required in this relation yearly.

Q. What do you think would be a fair allowance for that?—A. About one-half; I will take \$35 off from that item.

Q. What do you do with ballast; does it remain in the vessel?—A. No; it is taken out.

Q. Is this ballast expense incurred every year?—A. No; not the whole of it.

Q. The sum of \$80 is put down here for it?—A. Yes. I should say that about \$40 a year would be a fair estimate for ballast.

Q. Is a new swivel gun required every year?—A. No.

Q. In fact, this is not a depreciation account; it does not show the items for depreciation and wear and tear?—A. Items are there for what a charterer of a vessel would have to furnish.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. But he would not supply a swivel gun?—A. Probably not.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. The cost of ballast would never be charged for depreciation on the wear and tear of a vessel?—A. I do not think so. It would be charged in the vessel's expense account.

Q There is a great difference between that and this account; include these items in making up the sum total, and then tell us what percentage you charge for depreciation and wear and tear?—A. Those charges form part of the depreciation account.

Q. Do you really think that expenditure for ballast and a swivel-gun form part of the depreciation account? Do you honestly think so, major?—A. As to the swivel-gun, you can throw that out; it is an exception to the general rule, because there are not many vessels which carry such guns; but all those expenses, added to the depreciation of the hull of the vessel, go to make up that depreciation account.

Q. In making up this account you have included these items as part of it?—A. Yes.

Q. Even taking that method of making up and charging depreciation, let me ask you to look at the return before you, showing as net earnings for each schooner \$251?—A. Yes.

Q. That would be for four and one-half months, half of the season?—A. Yes.

Q. That would be \$500 for the season: this is for half of the season, and of course it would be the same for the other half of the season, if they were then employed?—A. Yes.

Q. Multiply that by 107, the number of vessels mentioned in the sum?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the result?—A. Fifty-three thousand seven hundred and fourteen dollars.

Q. That is not a bad profit for a man to make?—A. No.

Q. What percentage would that give on the capital employed?—A. You don't look above and see how the charterer stands.

Q. I will come to that directly. What percentage would \$53,714 form on the capital invested; \$535,000?—A. It would be a little short of 10 per cent.

Q. This is supposing that the owner of these 107 vessels would have run them without a shadow of risk, paying insurance upon them and receiving interest at the rate of 17 per cent—7 per cent. on his capital being already included—paying taxes out of his profits, and having an allowance of $14\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. depreciation. If that is so, will you kindly explain what you meant by telling Mr. Dana that a person who invested his money in vessels and who did not bring skilled labor to bear upon his operations could not make money?—A. I did so for the very reason that George Steele's vessels are the most successful vessels in Gloucester.

Q. But this is only a supposed state of things. What did you mean by making that answer to Mr. Dana?—A. That is a well-known fact.

Q. Unfortunately the facts and your evidence do not agree, I am afraid. You have proved here pretty conclusively that a man who invests \$535,000 on these vessels, employed in business, should make $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on his money after paying taxes, insurance, and keeping himself perfectly safe. How do you reconcile that result with the statement you made to Mr. Dana, that a person who invests his money in this business would be sure to lose?—A. You do not take into account the loss, but you take it as being all profit.

Q. The owner would suffer no loss, though the charterer would. It seems singular, does it not? You say this is where a man charters a vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. In the first place, is George Steele a charterer of vessels?—A. No.

Q. Then this statement, which assumes to relate to George Steele's business, as his name is mentioned as the charterer of the vessel, does not represent an existing state of facts, but is merely a theory which

you put forth?—A. I supposed I had mentioned on the account that it was an estimate.

Q. That is the real fact, is it not?—A. Yes. The real fact is that I made a mere estimate in this regard.

Q. George Steele does not charter vessels but owns them?—A. Yes.

Q. And this statement supposes him to be a charterer?—A. Yes.

Q. Though he is not one?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you had the opportunity of examining George Steele's books?—A. I have not.

Q. How did you get these thirteen or fourteen trips?—A. I saw the trip-books. I asked Mr. Steele for permission to show them to the Commission.

Q. You then had the opportunity of examining his books?—A. Yes, as to his trip-books, but not as to his ledger.

Q. Did you ask for his ledger?—A. I did not.

Q. I suppose if you had done so you would have obtained access to it?—A. Probably I should.

Q. Therefore you do not know what his books show as to actual profit and loss sustained by him during this period?—A. I do not.

Q. And the actual state of facts may be at variance with the theory you advance?—A. I hardly think so.

Q. Supposing that George Steele stands in the position you assume in this statement, he would be bankrupt beyond all redemption?—A. Yes.

Q. You have proved him from theory to be bankrupt beyond all redemption, when in fact he is a capitalist worth \$45,000, which exhibits the difference between the practical statement and the theory?—A. Yes; but he had capital when he went into the business.

Q. Do you state that he brought it in with him?—A. One-half of it was made in the sail-making business.

Q. Where was the other half made?—A. In the fishing business during nineteen years, but that is only \$1,000 a year, and he ought to make that.

A. The actual loss on each vessel, for 107 vessels, you place at \$167?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you make that up and tell me for how much he ought to be a defaulter?—A. His loss would be \$17,869.

Q. And that is not consistent with the facts; he is not a defaulter to that amount.—A. He has made it up in other parts of his business, but as far as his vessels are concerned he has probably lost that sum.

Q. You did not get access to his profit and loss ledger?—A. No.

Q. That would show exactly how it is, and this is an imaginary conclusion?—A. Yes. I could not make it up without the actual bills of expenses for his vessels. I thought it was already understood that this was imaginary.

Q. Turning to the credit side of that account, the catch is 33,645 barrels of mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you tell me where you got the values?—A. From the trip-book.

Q. And that shows the values at which he settled with his men?—A. Yes.

Q. Does it show the actual cash price which he received for these 33,645 barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you explain?—A. Remember that this is for the fish and the packing, which he receives when he sells the trip.

Q. Does that trip on its face show the actual moneys which he received

for the barrels of fish and to whom they were sold?—A. It shows it with the packing out.

Q. Will you turn up one of the trips and explain your meaning?—A. Here is a trip made between August and October in the schooner Marathon.

Q. It is a settlement between Mr. Steele and his crew?—A. Yes; and the settlement between Mr. Steele and his vessel for that trip.

Q. Does it show to whom the mackerel were sold?—A. No.

Q. Does it show the price per barrel for which they were sold?—A. Yes; the packing out. The prices were \$16, \$12, and \$6.

Q. Are not these the prices at which he settled with his men?—A. Certainly, and the prices at which he sold the fish.

Q. Are you prepared to state that he never sold any of those fish for any higher price than that which he allowed his men?—A. I would not swear to that, because I do not know.

Q. You do not know whether this was the case or not?—A. I will swear in this respect with regard to my own vessels.

Q. Are you prepared to state that Mr. Steele did not realize a larger price for the mackerel than that at which he settled with his crew?—A. I do not actually know whether this was the case or not, but I do know that it is the custom in Gloucester for the merchants to settle with their crews at the exact prices for which they sell their fish. They do not settle with the crews for less than they get.

Q. Did not you tell me, major, that it was the invariable practice for the merchants to settle with their crews when the vessels packed off, and that on a rise taking place in the market the former got the benefit of it?—A. O, that is a different thing. If the merchant buys the mackerel of the crew and keeps the fish on hand for a rise, and obtains it, that is his profit.

Q. So that the profit which Steele may have made with these 33,645 barrels of mackerel is a profit of which you absolutely know nothing?—A. I know nothing about that.

Q. So this statement does not pretend to be an exhibit of the actual profit which Steele may have made in this relation?—A. No; but I know the custom of the city, and that is to sell the trip and to allow the men the price then received.

Q. I merely want to show that the course of business is such that an experienced man can take advantage of a rise in the market and make a handsome profit of it?—A. That is true; and on the other hand he may lose.

Q. At what rate per barrel do you credit these mackerel?—A. The average price, as I stated in my explanation of the summary, is \$12 per barrel for the 17 years during which he had vessels in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. That is the price which he actually received for his mackerel.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. Does that cover all descriptions of mackerel?—A. Yes, all descriptions that are packed from his vessel.

Q. And the average was as high as \$12?—A. Yes.

Q. That was the actual result?—A. Yes.

Q. That is without packing, of course?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. Do you mean to say that Mr. Steele's mackerel during 17 years averaged \$12 a barrel, without packing-charges?—A. Yes; Mr. Steele was very successful in his trips.

Q. He took a large quantity of mackerel when currency prices were extremely high?—A. When the price was low he sent his vessels cod-fishing, and when they were high he sent them to the gulf.

Mr. Davies:

Q. I find that the average actual receipt of Mr. Noble, who has been examined here for the three qualities of mackerel, were \$15.34, so that really you are a little below what I thought the price would be. These are currency values, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. You charge against these catches of 17 years for bait, &c., \$48,052.80?—A. Yes.

Q. Dividing that sum by 107 leaves \$450 for each vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. I notice that in a statement concerning an actual trip you put the actual stock charges down at \$415?—A. Yes.

Q. Showing a difference of thirty-five dollars between these items in these two statements?—A. That may be so.

Q. Why did you not charge this item as \$415, as was the case with the Pharsalia, concerning which the sample statement was put in here?—A. Of course I took the actual sum which was expended for stock charges.

Q. Then this expenditure for the Pharsalia was a little below the ordinary run?—A. Yes; it is below the average.

Q. And this item represents the actual expenditure taken from the books?—A. Yes.

Q. Are the items for outfits and expenses put down also from actual expenditures?—A. No; they are estimates.

Q. They are suppositious?—A. They are estimates; yes.

Q. You have already gone over the provisions to show that the item of 40 cents a day in this regard was correct; that had reference to the halibut fishery?—A. All other fisheries average the same.

Q. You think so?—A. Yes.

Q. At what figure do you estimate the percentage of profit which is made by the merchant who furnishes the supplies?—A. I guess that it is in the neighborhood of 10 per cent.

Q. Would you say that it is above ten per cent.?—A. No; I think it would average about ten per cent.

Q. Then on \$85,386 spent for provisions a profit of about \$8,530 would be made?—A. Yes.

Q. You charge \$1 a barrel for salt?—A. Yes; that is the usual charge.

Q. Are there only two barrels in a hogshead of salt?—A. There are seven and a half bushels, or two barrels in it.

Q. Surely there must be more?—A. There are seven and a half bushels in two barrels of salt.

Q. Do not two and a half bushels make a barrel of salt?—A. No; there are three and a half bushels to the barrel.

Q. Would you not say that there are 5 barrels to the hogshead?—A. No, I could not say that.

Q. What would you put it at?—A. 2.27 fish-barrels.

Q. What does it cost a hogshead?—A. \$2.

Q. You charge \$8,500 for salt, for as many barrels at \$1 a barrel; one-half of it would be profit, and that would leave \$4,250 as profit?—A. Yes.

Q. You set down 107 bait-mills, one for each vessel, for the voyage?—Yes.

Q. Do you mean to tell us that a vessel requires a new bait-mill on every voyage she makes?—A. No.

Q. Would you reduce this item one-half?—A. I would reduce it one-quarter.

Q. Would not one bait-mill last two trips?—A. Yes; it would last for 4 months and 13 days.

Q. Would one last for 2 different trips?—A. These mills wear out as to the teeth in one season, and these have to be renewed for the next trip. The wood-work of the mill will last for 2 seasons.

Q. Then you charge the value of a new bait-mill for each season's trip, and that is too much?—A. Yes; it should be $\frac{3}{4}$. As to salt, I may here mention that 50 hogsheads of salt will fill 115 barrels; these hogsheads contain about 3 barrels.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. How many bushels are reckoned to a hogshead of salt at the custom-house?—A. 8.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Do you mean to say that salt costs, wholesale, \$2 a hogshead?—A. I know that is the price charged for it.

Q. What does it cost, say, by the 100 or 1,000 hogsheads? Does a merchant for such a quantity pay \$2 a hogshead?—A. No, probably not; he would probably obtain it for \$1.75 or \$1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$ per hogshead.

Q. Showing a difference of about 25 cents per hogshead as profit?—A. Yes.

Q. Would not the profit be more than 25 cents per hogshead on 8,500 barrels of salt?—A. No.

Q. By the way, what portion did you take off the bait-mill item?—A. I took off one-quarter.

Q. Of what does the fishing-gear for these 107 vessels consist?—A. Of hooks, and lines, and keelers.

Q. Are they not good for a second season?—A. Hooks and lines are not, but the keelers may be so used.

Q. Do you mean to say that they throw away their hooks and lines after having been used for one season?—A. They are no good after one season.

Q. What else goes to make up this fishing-gear in this item of \$4,815?—A. The cost of the pewter is included, I guess.

Q. What proportion would you take off that for one season?—A. Not a cent.

Q. What proportion of the money thus invested could be utilized at the end of the season?—A. I do not think that a cent's worth in value could be taken off this item. The keelers get pretty well used up at the end of the season.

Q. Surely the pewter would be good at the end of the year?—A. I do not think so.

Q. Do you say as a matter of fact that this fishing-gear, including the articles you have mentioned, is absolutely valueless at the end of one fishing-trip?—A. I do.

Q. Absolutely valueless, and treated so?—A. It is treated so.

Q. Nothing can be realized from it at all?—A. Nothing at all.

Q. Where did you get the custom-house and port charges from?—A. I obtained a good portion of them in the Dominion; 8 cents per hogshead of salt is charged in Gloucester for weighing-fees; and then the vessel has to clear from Gloucester.

Q. You think that this \$140 is a fair charge?—A. Yes. Mr. Steele paid a license on his vessel during those years.

Q. The next charge sets the charter of these 107 vessels at \$200 a

month; you have made up this statement, I presume, to show, or to attempt to show, the actual result in connection with fishing-vessels, but is it the practice among the merchants who own vessels to charter them out to others?—A. No.

Q. Then this theory has no basis of fact to rest on?—A. There are persons in Gloucester who sometimes charter vessels to go fishing.

Q. But this is not the custom?—A. No.

Q. Then of course it would be pretty difficult to arrive at a sum which it would be fair compensation to pay for a vessel; the merchants prefer to run their vessels themselves?—A. Yes; they generally do so.

Q. I suppose that there is not much insurance effected on charters in Gloucester?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever know any insurance to be effected on the charter of a vessel fishing in the gulf?—A. I do not know of anything of the sort, but it is a customary charge on the charterer.

Q. Is all the skipper's commission out of the net stock (\$355,000) charged against the owner?—A. Yes.

Q. The crew do not pay any part of it?—A. No.

Q. Is it 4 per cent. or 3 per cent. that is thus paid?—A. It is 4 per cent.

Q. The master does pretty well, then?—A. O, yes.

Q. What do you think would be the profit on the packing out of 33,645 barrels of mackerel?—A. It would be 30 or 50 cents per barrel.

Q. Taking 50 cents, that would make a profit of \$16,825?—A. Fifty cents is too high a figure.

Q. What would be the result?—A. When I said that, I referred to the prices which ruled during the war, when they got 50 cents.

Q. Will you add up the different charges; I make them amount to \$27,826; is that correct?—A. How many items have you?

Q. There is \$8,500?—A. That was reduced to \$6,200.

Q. How?—A. You reduced it, and you told me to set it at \$6,200.

Q. You calculated the rate at 10 per cent. of \$8,500 odd, and I took your own figures, leaving \$3,500; then there is \$2,300 for profit on salt?—A. I did not say that; in round numbers the figures would be \$1,750.

Q. Then, from the bait-mill item you take off one-quarter, which amounts to \$402?—A. Yes.

Q. And the profit on packing is \$16,825; add these items together.—A. That makes \$17,081.

Q. I make it \$27,000. Your sum shows a loss of \$44,715, and deducting this from \$27,800, what have you left; do the sum, as in the other case, and tell me what profit is made on the whole transaction.—A. It is \$9,223.

Q. Taking the whole transaction, what profit is made instead of the awful loss you previously made out?—A. It is \$9,233.

Q. And that is after the insurance companies have been paid; this is for one season, mind.—A. Yes; it is on 107 vessels.

Q. That is after the owner has received 7 per cent. for his money; after a depreciation of \$29,000 has been considered; after the taxes have been paid; and after insurance has been obtained upon the capital invested in these vessels and upon the charter and outfits; and there has been not one cent of the risk incurred while 7 per cent. has been paid on the capital employed besides, and still you have this profit?—A. There is \$75 for each vessel.

Q. I wanted to show this sum could be worked out differently with your own figures; this \$9,000 profit is more consistent with the facts; I think your figures are a little astray.—A. I am not satisfied about it.

Q. I suppose not.—A. From my general knowledge of the business of Gloucester I am not satisfied with that result.

Q. I find from your statements that after the Washington Treaty was entered into, Mr. Steele withdrew his vessels from your shore fishery and concentrated all his efforts on the bay; am I correct in making that statement?—A. In 1870 and 1871 he did not send any vessels to the bay.

Q. But in 1872 he commenced sending them to the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. And he has sent them there ever since?—A. Yes.

Q. And he has since sent none to fish on your shore?—A. No.

Q. Since 1872 he has sent none to fish on your shore, but has sent all his vessels to the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. What was the average price of the mackerel caught in the Gulf of St. Lawrence realized by Mr. Steele between 1858 and 1865? In the first place, what was the average catch per vessel made by his vessels in the gulf between 1858 and 1865?—A. It was 338 packed barrels for these years inclusive, and the mackerel sold for \$11.10 per barrel.

Q. What was it between 1865 and 1872?—A. Two hundred and eighty barrels, which sold for \$14.40, exclusive of the packing.

Q. And what was it between 1872 and 1876?—A. Two hundred and twenty-three barrels, which sold for \$10.01.

Q. That makes an average catch per vessel of 304 packed barrels, which realized \$12 a barrel?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the average catch of his shore vessels between 1858 and 1865?—A. It was 191 barrels.

Q. As against 338 barrels for the vessels which he sent to the bay. What is the average price which he realized for these mackerel?—A. Five dollars and seventy cents per barrel. His vessels fished on our shore for four years between those dates.

Q. As against \$11 received for his bay mackerel. Now take the whole period during which his vessels fished on the American shore.—A. The average time they were there employed was two months and twenty days each; their average catch was 239 barrels, and the average price of their mackerel \$7.10 a barrel.

Q. As against \$12 per barrel which he received for his bay mackerel. What was the share per month of the vessels which were engaged in fishing in the bay?—A. Three hundred and seventy-two dollars and sixty-six cents.

Q. What was such share for the vessels which fished on the American shore?—A. Three hundred and ten dollars and sixty cents.

Q. What was the share for each man of the crews which fished in the bay?—A. Twenty-four dollars and eighty-four cents.

Q. And what was such share of the crews which fished on the American shore?—A. Twenty dollars and seventy cents; but that is not a fair average, because Steele's vessels were not engaged in fishing as a rule on the American shore.

Q. Am I not taking the average for corresponding years in the bay and on your shore?—A. Yes.

Q. Does it not appear that Mr. Steele must have been losing money on your shore, and that after 1872 he transferred his fishing operations wholly to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where he has entirely kept his vessels since; is that a fact or not?—A. It is, because Mr. Steele's skippers are more acquainted with gulf fishing than with fishing on our shore. This has always been the case with them; they were always more accustomed to the bay branch of the fishery than to fishing on our shore.

Q. They knew where to fish there?—A. Yes.

MONDAY, *October 15, 1877.*

The Conference met.

The cross-examination of Major Low was resumed.

By Mr. Davies:

Question. I notice that in your examination on Friday, you said that the comparison with reference to Steele's vessels might not be a fair one with respect to the bay and shore fisheries, because they had been engaged in fishing a longer time in the Bay of St. Lawrence than on the American shore, and I want you to take the statement printed on page 359½ and make the comparisons for corresponding periods which I will indicate. In the first place, if you take the total number of vessels which were fishing in the Bay of St. Lawrence, how many would there be?—A. 107.

Q. Can you tell me, from that statement, what is the average time each vessel was occupied in fishing? Divide the total number of vessels into the time so occupied, and give the result.—A. It is 4 months and 13 days.

Q. Have you it already made up?—A. Yes; it is contained in my explanation of the summary I filed.

Q. How did you make it up?—A. I divided the time by the number of vessels.

Q. Try it again, and state the result.—A. It is $4\frac{13}{10}$ months, or 4 months and 13 days.

Q. Did you embrace the 75 days employed in the fitting out?—A. Yes.

Q. Take it without this period and see what you make it, giving the actual time consumed from the time when they left Gloucester until they returned; I make it $3\frac{8}{10}$ months.—A. Yes; that is it.

Q. Now, take the number of vessels engaged in the American coast fishery and treat them in the same way, omitting the time employed in fitting out?—A. It is $2\frac{6}{10}$ months; I call the total period 59 months.

Q. All of these vessels were mackereling?—A. One vessel was one day there.

Q. Having the average time which each vessel was so employed, I want you to take the catch which each vessel made, and the receipts obtained for those mackerel as you have them here; for instance, what was the total gulf catch?—A. 33,645 barrels.

Q. What did these 33,645 barrels of mackerel bring?—A. \$12 a barrel.

Q. And how much would that be in bulk?—A. \$403,332.86.

Q. How much did each vessel make per month?—A. \$372,343.

Q. No; I want to see how much was made per month.—A. It is all figured up here in the explanation of the summary on page 360.

Q. You make it \$372.66 for each vessel; then will you do the same sum for the period during the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. That is done, too, from 1858 to 1865 on page 360.

Q. But that does not show what each vessel made per month. You have given what the vessels made per month for the whole period of time, and I want to see what it was during the Reciprocity Treaty. Take the gross catch, value it, and divide by the length of time they were in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.—A. From 1858 to 1865, I make up the number as 60 vessels, and the value of the gross catch, \$225,243.

Q. That leaves \$3,754 for each vessel?—A. It is \$401.13.

Q. You have misunderstood me. I want to find out for the period

from 1858 to 1865 what the earnings of each vessel per month were.—
A. They were \$16,694.

Q. Per month for each vessel?—A. For each vessel per month they were \$401.13.

Q. Add up the value of the catch for that period.—A. I did not add it up, but I added the vessel's share up.

Q. I am not asking you about that. I am taking the table and comparing one statement with another. I am asking you concerning the result for each vessel, and I want to see what the vessels' earnings per month were.—A. But that won't give it.

Q. Yes; you either have to pay one-half of what you catch or wages, I do not care which; the value of the gross catch is \$225.233, and there were 60 vessels, thus leaving \$3,754 for each vessel for the season; and as the average trip was $3\frac{5}{10}$ months, that would leave \$1,000 per month by my sum. Would this be the case or not?—A. The value of the gross catch is \$225,243.29.

Q. And there are 60 vessels?—A. Yes; that makes \$3,754.55 for each vessel.

Q. You divide that by the average number of months, $3\frac{5}{10}$?—A. I take the whole time that they were engaged fishing.

Q. What was the length of the average trip in the bay from 1858 to 1865?—A. Eighty-three days was each vessel's average.

Q. For what period of time?—A. From 1858 to 1865; and this leaves \$98.80 per month.

Q. You are wrong; you say that you have \$3,754 for each trip; now what is the length of time that each season occupied?—A. 3.8 months.

Q. Divide \$3,754 by 3.8 and you will find that this will leave as close as possible \$1,000 a month?—A. It leaves \$998.

Q. Now do exactly the same sum for the same time on the American shore. I only put you these questions because you answered previously that owing to the difference in the length of time, a fair comparison could not be made between the vessels fishing on the American shore and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Will you kindly read the catches and make them up?—A. The explanation of the summary which I have made up shows that the American shore fisheries realized less per month than the bay fisheries.

Q. I know, but I want to learn the amount exactly. The gulf fishery realized \$1,000, less \$2, per month; now what do you make the gross catch for the shore fisheries?—A. \$12,713.20.

Q. I make it \$12,434?—A. You will find that I am right.

Q. Then the number of the vessels is 12?—A. Yes.

Q. What will this give for each vessel?—A. \$1,059.43.

Q. Take the average length of time—the average trip?—A. They were engaged in fishing for 19 months.

Q. Dividing the number of the vessels into the results, what will it leave you?—A. \$623.

Q. So that the average catch per month of the vessels employed in the American shore fishery from 1858 to 1865 amounted in value to \$623, while the average catch per month of the vessels engaged in the Gulf of St. Lawrence fishery realized \$998?—A. Yes.

Q. And the average value of the catch of the vessels engaged in the gulf fishing for the same period of time was \$998?—A. Yes.

Q. This refers entirely to the table you have put in with regard to George Steele's vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. You put in another statement purporting to be a statement show-

ing the difference between the American shore and the Gulf of St. Lawrence fisheries?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you think that this was a fair statement?—A. A fair statement?

Q. Yes.—A. Why not?

Q. The counsel asked you if you had ever made up statistics relative to the shore and gulf fisheries, showing the difference between the American shore fishery and the Gulf of St. Lawrence fishery, and your answer was: "Yes; the statement is as follows." Did you intend to file this statement as a fair statement, showing the relative difference between these two fisheries?—A. I explained what I meant right underneath, when I said:

The average catch is based on the average catch of 84 vessels, from 17 firms, in 1869, and 28 vessels in the bay, and 62 vessels off American shore, from 20 firms in 1875. These firms have done better than the rest.

Q. Was it your intention to show the relative catches made in these two fisheries?—A. During these two periods; yes.

Q. Did you intend that these periods should be taken as a fair representation of the catches usually made in these two fisheries?—A. Those were the actual catches made for those years by Gloucester vessels.

Q. I only want to know whether you intended that the Commission should draw from this statement the inference that it represented fairly the relative values of these two fisheries?—A. I so intended it for those years.

Q. But did you so intend it for any other years?—A. No, I do not know anything about any other years than those in this relation.

Q. Did you never make up the catches for any other years save those?—A. No; those were the only years for which I ascertained the number of vessels which had been fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and off the American shore.

Q. How was it that you came to ascertain this for those years?—A. It was because in 1869 I was town clerk, and I then ascertained it for the information of the people of Gloucester; and in 1875 I obtained this information for Centennial purposes.

Q. You do not pretend to say that it shows anything like a fair representation of the relative values of the two fisheries?—A. No, save for those years. I show the number of barrels that was caught in that period in these two fisheries.

Q. Is this result not directly opposite to the result shown by an examination of the catches of Mr. Steele's vessels?—A. I do not consider that the catches of Mr. Steele's vessels show a fair criterion in this respect.

Q. But what is the actual result—you show in this statement that your shore fishery is very much better than the Gulf of St. Lawrence fishery for the two years 1869 and 1875?—A. Yes.

Q. Now taking the whole number of years that Mr. Steele was engaged in the Gulf of St. Lawrence fisheries, is not the result directly opposite to the result you have shown in this statement?—A. I know that it is.

Q. Then you did not intend that this statement should be taken by the Commission as a fair representation of the general value of these two fisheries?—A. Yes, I did.

Q. For those two years?—A. Yes.

Q. But nothing more?—A. Nothing more.

Q. And this is directly opposite to the general result shown by the

catches of Mr. Steele's vessels in the bay for 17 years?—A. I do not think such is the general result.

Q. You said just now that it was?—A. Yes.

Q. To which statement do you adhere?—A. I adhere to what I have said: that the general average of Mr. Steele's vessels in the bay is not a fair estimate, because he did not pay any attention to the American shore fisheries.

Q. You said a moment ago that this was the case, and that it was not the case; and I want to know which you really mean.—A. I mean what I say.

Q. You stated in your examination on page 359, that Mr. Steele's firm was among the firms which were most successful, whether on your shore or in the Gulf of St. Lawrence—that he was one of the most successful on your own shore and in the gulf.—A. I beg your pardon. I never said that; or if I did say so, I did not mean to say that he was the most successful on our shore.

Q. The counsel put you this question:

Q. To how many firms do you refer?—A. These include the most successful firms, George Steele, &c.

Q. Those are the firms that had been the most successful, whether on our shore or in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; which are considered to be the most successful firms in Gloucester?—A. George Steele, Leighton & Co., Dennis & Ayer, and Smith & Gott.

Q. These are generally considered to be the most successful firms?—A. Yes.

A. I did mean to say that his firm was among the most successful firms on our shore. I did not clearly understand the question at the time.

Q. You did not mean to say that?—A. I did mean to say that this included in the aggregate the most successful firms in Gloucester, and I included George Steele as one of those firms; and I do consider him to be one of the most successful firms in the fishing business.

Q. You did not mean to say that his was one of the most successful firms regarding the fishery on your coast?—A. No; but he was classed with the others.

Q. And if you are reported here as having said so, you wish to explain the matter in that way?—A. Certainly.

Q. I want to know whether, as an actual fact, the figures produced by you concerning the periods of time for which Mr. Steele was engaged in the fishery on the American coast, and in the fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, do not show a result entirely opposite to that made out in this statement relative to the years 1869 and 1876, which you have put in?—A. That may be so.

Q. Is this the case or not? Is the result as to the relative values of the American shore fishery and the Gulf of St. Lawrence fishery the same in the statement you have filed for the years 1869 and 1875 as it is when you compare the results of the whole 17 years during which Mr. Steele was engaged in these two fisheries?—A. The result is the same as regards this statement.

Q. But does the result shown by the one statement exactly coincide with the results shown by the other statement as to the relative values of the two fisheries, or does such comparison show that the bay fishery is far more valuable than the American shore fisheries?—A. You mean by Mr. Steele's trips?

Q. Yes.—A. Taking Mr. Steele's statement alone it would show that, if you do not take into consideration any other consideration connected with it.

Q. Taking Steele's statement as it appears here, does it not show that

the Gulf of St. Lawrence fishery is far more valuable than the American shore fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. And the other statement is put in to show that the American shore fishery is more valuable than the Gulf of St. Lawrence fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. But this latter statement only compares results for the two years, 1869 and 1875?—A. Yes.

Q. And the other statement covers a consecutive period of 17 years?—A. This period is not consecutive.

Q. Why not?—A. Because a good many gaps occurred between the years when his vessels were fishing.

Q. From 1858 it extends to 1875, omitting two years, I think?—A. Several more years are omitted. There were quite a number of years when Mr. Steele's vessels were not fishing on the American shore, between 1858 and 1875. During a great many years they did not fish on the American shore at all.

Q. Taking the exact length of time he was engaged in the bay fishery, did not this show that it was much more valuable to him per month than was the American shore fishery per month?—A. Yes.

Q. You were asked whether some of these statements were not made up for the Centennial, and you stated that this was the case?—A. Yes.

Q. Some of these statements were not made up for the purposes of this Tribunal at all, but for the Centennial?—A. Yes.

Q. And the motive for their preparation had no connection with this Tribunal?—A. Yes—nothing whatever.

Q. What did you make them up for?—A. To show that Gloucester, in the fishing business, was the largest fishing port in the world.

Q. And what was your object in showing this?—A. It was to advertise the place to some extent.

Q. What end were you seeking to gain by advertising this?—A. I wanted to make Gloucester more known, so that we might have a better market for our fish; that was the idea.

Q. And in order to have a better market for your fish, I suppose you wanted to let capitalists know what a large business it carried on?—A. Yes.

Q. And you proved it to be the third largest fishing port in the world?—A. I think that it so stands first.

Q. I suppose you wanted to let people know that you carried on there a large fishing business which was profitable in a certain sense; you did not wish them to understand that it was an unprofitable business?—A. Of course not. We wanted to show that this was the business of Gloucester. I did not say, and I would not say, that the business of Gloucester is unprofitable.

Q. You desired to show that the fishing business was the business of Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. And you re-affirm that here?—A. Yes; that it is the main business of Gloucester.

Q. I suppose that this business has resulted in the building up of Gloucester?—A. Yes; to a great extent, of course.

Q. There are industrial pursuits pursued incidentally by the population, but these are not the main pursuits of Gloucester?—A. No. I think, though, that, if anything, those other pursuits have brought more wealth into Gloucester than the fishing business.

Q. Do you think so?—A. Yes.

Q. What makes you think that?—A. Well, the rich men that have

thus come there, and built and paid taxes, have helped out the valuation of Gloucester.

Q. When did these rich men come there?—A. Some of them have been there for 10 or 15 or 20 years.

Q. Would you like it to go on record, as your opinion, that Gloucester owes her prosperity more to the mercantile business, and to other incidental business, than to the fishing business?—A. I should not. I consider the fishing business of Gloucester as the main business of the place.

Q. And the one to which she chiefly owes her prosperity?—A. Yes.

Q. Looking up the files of the Cape Ann Advertiser, with reference to the Centennial, I notice a statement relative to your fisheries, and to the effect their prosecution has had on Gloucester, to which I would like to call your attention, to see whether you agree with it or not. It is contained in this paper of date November 12, 1875, and is as follows:

In 1841 the fishery business of Gloucester had reached about its lowest ebb. Only about 7,000 barrels of mackerel were packed that year, and the whole product of the fisheries of the port was only about \$300,000. In 1845 the business began to revive, the Georges and Bay Chaleur fishery began to be developed, and from that time to this year, 1875, has been steadily increasing, until at the present time Gloucester's tonnage is 10,000 tons more than Salem, Newburyport, Beverly, and Marblehead united. Nearly 400 fishing-schooners are owned at and fitted from the port of Gloucester, by 39 firms, and the annual sales of fish are said to be between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000, all distributed from here by Gloucester houses.

THE COMMERCIAL WHARVES.

The wharves once covered with molasses and sugar hogsheads, are now covered with fish flakes, and the odors of the "sweets of the tropics" have given place to "the ancient and fish-like smells" of oil and dried cod; the few sailors of the commercial marine have been succeeded by five thousand fishermen drawn from all the maritime quarters of the globe; and the wharves that were the wonders of our boyhood days are actually swallowed up in the splendid and capacious piers of the present day, so much have they been lengthened and widened.

THE SALT TRADE.

For many years after the decline of the Surinam trade, hardly a large vessel was ever seen at Gloucester, and many persons thought that nevermore would a majestic ship be seen entering this capacious and splendid seaport. But never in the palmiest days of Gloucester's foreign trade, were such immense vessels seen as at the present day. Ships of 1,500 tons (as big as six William and Henry's) sailed into Gloucester harbor from Liverpool and Cadiz, and came in to the wharve without breaking bulk, and also laid afloat at low water. More than forty ships, barks, brigs, and schooners, of from 400 to 1,400 tons, laden with salt alone, have discharged at this port the present year, and also the same number last year. The old, venerable port never represented such a forest of masts as can now frequently be seen; sometimes six ships and barks at a time, besides innumerable schooners.

THE CITY OF GLOUCESTER OF 1875 AND THE TOWN OF 1825.

What a contrast is presented as a ship enters the harbor now, with what was presented in 1825. The little rusty, weather-beaten village, with two "meeting-houses" and a few dwellings and wharves gathered around them; two or three thousand people with \$500,000 property, was all that Gloucester then was, as near as we can ascertain. Now the central wards, without suburban districts, contain 14,000 people, with \$9,000,000 valuation.

Was the valuation irrespective of the suburban districts that amount; is this correct?—A. I could not say for certain. You have the valuations to Gloucester for a series of years.

Q. Your valuation agrees with this; but the statement says that this valuation is irrespective of the suburban districts—you know as town clerk whether this is so or not?—A. I was not town clerk then.

Q. Do you know whether this is the case or not?—A. I know that the whole valuation of the city does include the suburban districts.

Q. The article continues:

Five banks with nearly \$2,000,000 capital in them (including savings); and this increase has arisen, not from foreign commerce, but from the once despised and insignificant fisheries.

It will be seen by a review of the history of Gloucester, that a foreign commerce did not build the town up in population or wealth; that from 1825 to 1850, its increase had been very small; but from 1850 to 1875, it has grown from 8,000 to 17,000 inhabitants, and its valuation from \$2,000,000 to \$9,000,000! It is the fisheries that have mainly caused this great change; it is the success of that branch of industry that has lined Gloucester harbor with wharves, warehouses, and packing-establishments, from the Fort to "Oakes's Cove." It is the fisheries that have built up Rocky Neck and Eastern Point, and caused ward 3 (Gravel Hill and Prospect street) to show nearly all the gain in population from 1870 to 1875.

Do you think that this picture is overdrawn as to the prosperity of Gloucester or as to the cause to which this prosperity is attributed?—A. Well, I think that it is a little overdrawn myself.

Q. You think that a little allowance ought to be made for the centennial year?—A. Yes, I think so, in this respect.

Q. Do you think that we should make the same allowance with regard to the papers which you have put in concerning the cost of fitting out and fishing schooners, &c., prepared for the centennial year?—A. No. I think that these are below rather than above the actual estimates; in fact I know that this is the case.

Q. Will you kindly tell me what your vessels cost when you were in the fishing business?—A. The Cynisca cost \$3,730; the C. C. Davies, \$3,300; the Anna, \$2,000; the Daniel McPhee, \$3,500; the Ella F. Bartlett, \$3,600; the R. H. Oakes, \$4,200; and the I. C. Curtis, \$6,500; that is the whole valuation, but I only owned shares in them.

Q. That makes an average of \$3,830 for each vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. And that is the number of vessels in which you were interested?—A. Yes.

You have given the valuations and what they cost?—A. Yes; what they cost.

Q. This, I suppose, represents about their value?—A. Yes, at that time.

Q. Do you not think that there is a very great difference between the value of the vessels actually engaged in the fishery and the value of the fancy vessels, the cost of which you sent to the Centennial?—A. Fancy vessels? That was the actual cost of these vessels in 1875.

Q. What is the name of a vessel that cost so much?—A. The Victor; she cost \$8,800.

Q. What was her size?—A. 77 tons.

Q. Was she an ordinary vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. Does she represent the ordinary class of vessels engaged in the fisheries?—A. Yes.

Q. How is it that your seven vessels did not cost anything like so much?—A. That was before the war, when prices were on a gold basis.

Q. Is not the American paper dollar as good as gold now?—A. Yes; very nearly.

Q. That reason cannot effect it; that has nothing to do with it. I want to know if your vessels were of an inferior class or were they a fair sample of the usual run of fishing-vessels?—A. They were a fair sample of the vessels which were then engaged in the fisheries.

Q. We are to understand that this is about the average value of the vessels engaged in the fisheries?—A. Yes; at that time.

Q. That was when a dollar currency was worth a dollar in gold, and the dollar currency is almost worth that now; do you mean to say that the cost of building vessels now is dearer than it was then?—A. I do; and it is a great deal dearer.

Q. Why?—A. I do not know why; but it is due, I think, to the increased value of labor and of material. I know that these do cost more now than they did then. They now cost double as much as they did then.

Q. You stated that you were interested in 8 vessels and you have only named 7?—A. I only fitted out the schooner Electric Flash, but I have included her catch.

Q. You were not directly interested in her?—A. No; save only as an outfitter. She was a very successful vessel, and I merely mentioned her to show her catch in the gulf.

Q. Have you thought over the question of bait, since Friday, to find out whether or not the bait that is charged against a vessel, when she goes on a fishing-voyage, is generally all used?—A. Yes; this is the case when they get a full trip.

Q. We know, as a matter of fact, that vessels do not generally get full trips; now, suppose that a vessel gets only half a trip, and returns to Gloucester, is not the bait left from that which she took with her when she went on her voyage still good bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Therefore, that voyage could only be charged with the actual quantity of bait used?—A. That is all she is charged with.

Q. What do you mean by that?—A. What I say; that if any bait is returned it is credited in the gross stock of her catch.

Q. I notice that, in the statement concerning the Oliver Eldridge, you charged that vessel with 55 barrels of slivers, pogies, at \$6.50, from the Eclipse; was this not previously charged to the Eclipse?—A. No.

Q. How do you know that?—A. These pogies came from the Eclipse.

Q. What is she?—A. A bait seiner.

Q. You also charge \$7.50 for clams from last year?—A. That was credited back to a vessel last year.

Q. Was this credited in the trip-book?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you get me the trip-book, and show me the entry?—A. I do not know what vessel it was; but if I knew this I could show the entry.

Q. You have the schooner Oliver Eldridge mentioned here, and it must appear there?—A. It is not credited from her trip last year, of course.

Q. Surely you can tell by looking at the trip-book?—A. I can see on the trip-book where credit is given under the catch of mackerel for so many barrels of bait returned; that is the way it is done before the stock charges are taken out. The mackerel are credited first, then the pogies returned; the bait returned is credited under the mackerel, and added in, and then comes the stock charges, which are deducted from both bait and mackerel.

Q. That may be so?—A. It is so.

Q. The trip-book does not refer to any particular lot in this regard?—A. No; the returned bait is simply taken out of the vessels and stored away.

Q. Show me the trip of the vessel where this is credited; as almost every vessel has a short fare, such an entry must appear in nearly every account?—A. This is not always so.

Q. Why not, if any bait is left?—A. It is so if any is left.

Q. Every vessel not having a full fare must have something to credit stock charges; and this will make a tremendous difference in 107 ves-

sels?—A. I see that Mr. Steele, in making up his voyages, has charged for the bait used, but has not taken in all the bait they carried.

Q. How do you know that?—A. Don't you see 27 barrels.

Q. Just tell me what there is to justify you in supposing that?—A. Well, there was 27 barrels used in catching 219 barrels of mackerel according to that. They will be likely to carry more bait than 27 barrels.

Q. But you find, I understand, that there is no credit to the stock charges in the books?—A. I don't see any.

Q. You can find them?—A. No.

Q. Now you assume he has only charged the bait actually used. But I want to know this. There is nothing on the face of the book?—A. No; there does not appear to be on that book, but I think I have seen it somewhere on some books.

Q. What schooner was that?—A. The George S. Loring.

Q. Now, you see if you go by that rule—A. You cannot go by any rule on bait.

Q. Well, here is the schooner. She took 226 barrels; but she is charged with 55 barrels of bait?—A. I know it.

Q. Would you assume from this that he had only charged what was actually used?—A. I should presume so.

Q. Why?—A. Because, in regard to using bait some vessels and some skippers use very much more bait than others. Some of the most successful skippers are most liberal with bait.

Q. In other words, you just assume that what was there was actually used?—A. Because I see no more, and from my judgment of the way the mackerel are caught. Here is a credit—schooner Charles Carroll; she was in Bay St. Lawrence in 1863; debtor 40 barrels slivers, 12 barrels clams, less 4 barrels slivers and 1 barrel of clams sold to schooner Madame Roland.

Q. Madame Roland is another of his vessels that is in the commencement of the account. Well, we will take a vessel that is going to haul up.—A. There is the schooner Austerlitz. She had 8 barrels of clams, "less 1 barrel clams left." There is another where she ran short of bait and got it from another vessel. Here is the schooner Grenada.

Q. What year?—A. 1863. Eighteen barrels slivers, 6 barrels clams, 2 barrels from schooner Altamaha in bay, less 7 barrels bait left.

Q. Well, in that other book we examined underneath your hand, I would like to know if you could find any in that?—A. No; I don't see any.

Q. So I presume there is none left; either none left or none credited?—A. If there was any left it was taken out of the bait before the bait was entered on the trip-book, because I know the bait is always accounted for at the end of the voyage.

Q. Was Mr. Steele accustomed to take out licenses?—A. He was.

Q. How are they charged? In the trip-books?—A. I think they are. I think I saw them on the trip-books.

Q. You are sure of that?—A. I am pretty certain.

Q. That they are charged on the trip-books against the voyage, part of stock charges?—A. Yes.

Q. That would be then that the owner would pay half and the crew half?—A. What year were they?

Q. 1866 and 1867. If they were charged in that way, the owner would pay half and the crew half?—A. If they are charged in that way—yes.

Q. Can you give me the name of some one vessel that took a license?—

A. [Refers to the book.] I find a fishing license was charged to the Alhambra.

Q. I suppose when you made up the statement of charges they were included in the custom-house and port charges you put in?—A. I think they are. They comprise a portion of that.

Q. So of course now that they are not payable, they could not be charged for the years they are not payable?—A. No.

Q. Now, in reading this book, "Fisheries of Gloucester," published by Procter, but—before I refer to that, have you been looking into the question of salt?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the freight of a hogshead of salt from Liverpool?—A. I don't know.

Q. You can't tell?—A. No; because I don't know.

Q. On page 75 of this book I find that there were imported in 1870 20,136½ hogsheads of Liverpool salt, costing \$8,673; of Cadiz salt 24,879½ hogsheads, valued at \$13,910. In 1875 the imports were 74,032 hogsheads of Cadiz salt, and 20,480 of Liverpool, 10,966 of Trepani, 3,008 Turk's Island, making a total of 108,486. The salt used was 106,245 hogsheads. The value of the salt, as appears there, would be from 45 to 47 cents per hogshead.—A. I don't know anything about that. I know what it sold for.

Q. You are speaking of the price of salt as sold out. I am speaking of the value of the salt there.—A. That I don't know anything about.

Q. What do you find it sold for—the wholesale prices?—A. I don't know.

Q. Now one question. I understood you that in former years the mackerel-fishermen and owners of mackerel-vessels used to insure their vessels in Boston insurance offices?—A. I think they did.

Q. But of late years they have found it more profitable to form a mutual company?—A. Yes.

Q. That of course divides the losses among themselves, and they divide the profits, and really these 39 men who own all the fishing vessels of Gloucester are formed into a mutual insurance company? If they make \$1,000 or \$20,000, they get back their money in the shape of dividends; so it is really like paying a duty and getting it back. It is a drawback. Now, have you examined and can you tell me what profits are made by this company?—A. I cannot.

Q. You don't know?—A. I guess the assessments come oftener than the dividends.

Q. Do you know so?—A. Yes.

Q. Now I would like to know whether you are speaking at haphazard, because I have a statement under my hand.—A. Well, I haven't been of late years acquainted with the working of the insurance companies; but when I was in business I know I had to pay assessments.

Q. Were you a shareholder?—A. Yes; all owners of vessels are.

Q. You have had to pay some calls. Now in this book, the "Fisheries of Gloucester," on page 73, a table of losses is given running from 1830 to 1875. There was 333 losses, that is, an average annual loss of seven vessels for these years. For the past five years the average loss has been greater, but that would be the total number. Now I have gone to the trouble of making up a little sum, and I think there must be a very handsome dividend divided somewhere, if they pay 4 per cent. as you have said. You haven't made a statement yourself?—A. No; but you may rest assured, when I go home, I shall go into this insurance business and know about it.

By Mr. Whiteway :

Q. Have you ever been personally engaged in packing mackerel ?—A. I have.

Q. Curing fish ?—A. Yes; I have.

Q. Are you quite clear there is any salt used in the curing of fish after having been put into the waterhouse and washed out ?—A. No, sir; there is none.

Q. I thought you were mistaken in your examination on that subject ?—A. I stated that there was salt put in before it was waterhawsed.

Q. Is there any before it is waterhawsed ?—A. There is.

Q. Are you clear on that ?—A. Yes; there is about four barrels in a butt, that is, eight quintals.

Q. You are quite clear on that ?—A. I am.

Q. Now, you gave us a statement of the operations of the *Pharsalia* on a Grand Bank voyage in 1875. That vessel was out how long ?—A. Three months and eight days.

Q. In 1875 ?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You took this from the trip-book ?—A. I did.

Q. Well, now, what induced you to make the selection of this trip as an illustration of the cost of a vessel using fresh bait and going to the Grand Bank ?—A. Because it covered so many ports which she entered, and the different rates charged for ice and bait.

Q. Is it not the most expensive trip that is in that book ?—A. I think not.

Q. Turn up the other that is more extensive. See if you can find a more expensive trip than that. What years does that event cover ?—A. 1874, 1875, and a portion of 1876.

Q. Now is not this the most expensive trip made by any vessel using fresh bait during these years ?—A. After referring to the book—it may be. From what examination I have made, I think it may be.

Q. As far as you have gone, you find it to be the most expensive trip ?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, in contrast to that, you take the trip of a schooner—*Madam Roland*—using salt bait, for the year, 1873, is it not ?—A. Yes.

Q. She fitted with salt bait ?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, on the other hand, the result of that trip was particularly prosperous ?—A. No, sir.

Q. For that year ?—A. For that year.

Q. Have you the trip-book ?—A. Yes, I have. (Reads from memorandum as follows:)

Schooner George B. Loring.

Trip-book No. 9, page 32. Trip to Grand Bank, with salt bait, from June 8th to August 30th, 1874—2 months 22 days—\$2,835.97 net stock. Page 91. From September 10th to November 27th, 2 months 17 days, with fresh bait, \$1,538.03 net stock.

Schooner Everett Steele.

Trip-book No. 9, July 21 to September 22nd, 1873. Salt bait, \$3,756.25 net stock.

Schooner Madam Roland.

Book 8, page 342, June 19 to Aug. 14, 1873, 2 months 5 days, with salt bait stocked, \$4,331.80 net stock. Aug. 26 to Oct. 10, 1873, salt bait, 1 month 14 days, stocked \$2,608.07 net stock.

Q. Now, how do you know that these vessels used fresh bait as well as salt ?—A. I presume they did; that bait was caught on the Banks.

Q. Didn't these vessels go into any port after leaving Gloucester, and get fresh bait ?—A. No.

Q. You are certain of that ?—A. Yes.

Q. From what ?—A. From the trip-book.

Q. Can you rely always on the statements in the trip-book ?—A. I can, because the bait is always charged to stock.

Q. You can always rely on the statements made in the trip-book ?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, turn to the trip-book of the Knight Templar in 1876. Where does it appear that the vessel went in for fresh bait ?—A. She went into Bliss Island.

Q. Anywhere else ?—A. No, sir.

Q. Does it not say anywhere else ?—A. She went in for ice to St. Pierre.

Q. Didn't she get bait ?—A. Yes.

Q. Who was the captain of that vessel ?—A. Captain Gray, I think.

Q. Well, he swears that upon that trip he was into Hermitage Bay and Bliss Island ?—A. Where is Hermitage Bay ?

Mr. Foster remarks that Captain Gray didn't say that he went into Nova Scotia anywhere for bait, and that "Bliss Island" may be a misprint for Bois Island in Newfoundland.

Mr. WHITEWAY. I only refer to it to show that the trip-book cannot be implicitly depended upon.

Q. Do you consider that it is a fair criterion as regards the advantages either of salt bait or of fresh bait to take one trip in 1873 and one trip in 1875, one being a salt-bait trip and the other a fresh-bait trip, and draw conclusions as to the advantages of each respectively. Do you consider it fair or not to take this as a basis ?—A. Let me explain in my answer. When I drew off this—

Q. I ask you a question. You can explain afterwards. (Question repeated.)—A. I didn't draw any conclusions from that.

Q. I am asking the question whether you consider it fair upon such premises to draw a conclusion ?—A. No ; I don't. I didn't draw a conclusion on those two trips.

Q. Didn't you intend to show to the Commission by those two statements the advantages of salt bait and fresh ?—A. I did. With the same catch of fish. They were the only two vessels I could get. I didn't want to take two trips in vessels that were wide apart.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. Wide apart from what ?—A. Wide apart in the catch. I might have taken extreme ones, but I wanted to give a fair average between the two.

By Mr. Whiteway :

Q. Could not you find a fresh-bait one that stocked as much as the salt-bait ones you gave ?—A. No.

Q. Do you mean to say there haven't been many over and above the one you have given ?—A. I am not aware of it.

Q. You see Captain Malloy stocked with fresh bait 3,700, and he didn't consider that a very large catch. Now, can you tell me whether the Bank fishing for 1875 was a poor fishery, below the average, or a large fishery, above the average ?—A. I could not tell you.

Q. Have you never heard it was below the average ; that is, year before last, the Bank fishery ?—A. No ; I have never heard it was below the average.

Q. Do you know what the Bank fishing was in 1873, whether it was

above or below the average?—A. I don't know. I form my opinion from what I saw on Steele's books.

Q. Now, look at the trip of the Pharsalia, at which you were looking just now.—A. I have it before me.

Q. You see there is an item headed "damaged fish, at one cent a pound." You see that?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you find in the trip-book, which you presented here, another case of a Grand Bank fishing-vessel fishing with fresh bait, where there has been any damaged fish for these three years, 1874, 1875, and 1876?—A. The schooner Knight Templar. (Reads items of outfit, among others an item showing that she was on a salt-bait trip).

Q. Then there is damaged fish on a salt-bait trip?—A. Yes.

Q. Now find another case on a fresh-bait trip. (Witness refers to book.)

Q. I would like, if you have any doubt, if you would take time.—A. That is a very small amount of bait to catch 226 barrels.

Q. I don't think you will find any. You see fish may be damaged on board a salt-bait vessel fishing on the Banks as well as on a fresh-bait trip.—A. I see it.

Q. Now, will you look, please, at the Pharsalia, on the next trip, after she landed the cargo of which you put in an account?—A. That was in 1873, was it not?

Q. No, 1875.—A. She foundered at sea.

Q. Was she an old vessel?—A. No.

Q. What age was she?—A. The abstract will tell exactly. I can't tell (after referring to abstract). She was brand new. She was lost on her second trip.

Q. You stated in your examination-in-chief, in relation to the damage to the Pharsalia's fish, as follows:

Q. Before you leave that I want to ask you in reference to an item there—"damaged codfish."—A. 18,159 pounds of damaged cod, at one cent, \$135.10.

Q. Why should there be this damaged codfish? What is the cause of it?—A. Well, I have my own opinion of the cause.

Q. What do you believe to be the cause?—A. I believe the cause is going in so much for fresh bait.

Q. How should that damage the codfish?—A. My opinion is that the salters salted it with the idea that they would not go in so much, and didn't put so much salt on it. When she went into port so much, going into the warm water it heated.

Now, you find there are damaged fish, as well with salt-bait fishing, as with fresh?—A. I do find it.

Q. And it is upon that one case of damaged fish with fresh bait that you arrive at this conclusion?—A. I could not account for it in any other way.

Q. But it is this one case that you drew this conclusion from?—A. Yes.

Q. And you would lead the Commission to believe, then, that fish was liable to be damaged, because of vessels going in for fresh bait, because of this one vessel on this one cruise?—A. No, I don't now, I have seen that other case.

Q. You withdraw what you said before?—A. I withdraw as far as that is concerned.

Q. Have you ever been on the Banks fishing?—A. I haven't.

Q. Then, you would not presume to put your opinion in contradiction to the opinion of experienced men who had been there six or seven years, if they testified contrary to you?—A. No, sir; of course not.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Turning to page 367 of your testimony, you will find the following question and answer :

Q. Now, can you give us a similar statement of the cost of a vessel for trawling halibut on the Banks, made out in the same manner for the Centennial?—A. Yes; I have it, as follows:

Cost of a new schooner at Gloucester, Mass., in 1875, fitted for trawling halibut on the Banks.

Vessel of 71 tons; cost \$8,000. Vessel made nine trips to Western and Grand Banks, being at sea 302 days, with 12 men for crew, at the following expense, viz:

Trawl-gear	\$1,023 25
Vessel's expense account	1,823 25
Provisions, &c.....	1,426 03
General charges, ice, bait, salt, &c.....	1,135 50
	<hr/> 5,408 64

Now, whose schooner was that?—A. Joseph O. Procter's.

Q. Now, take the vessel's expense account, \$1,823.25; is that taken from Procter's own account?—A. Yes, sir; he gave it to me.

Q. It was not anything you made up?—A. No, sir.

Q. Now, on page 374 the following questions and answers are reported:

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Now, you have here in this broadside the vessel's expense account, \$1,823.25. Do they call that an expense account? Is that the way they entitle it on the books in making up the account?—A. No; it is all put in one account. All the things for the vessel are put in one account. These were separated for this special purpose.

Q. Now, you take this expense account, what period of time does it cover?—A. Three hundred and two days.

Q. Now, what are the items of the vessel's expense account?—A. They are as follows:

Vessel, 71 tons; cost, \$8,800. Fitted for trawling halibut.

TRAWL-GEAR.

Twine	\$5 00
8 baskets	6 40
22 buoys	11 00
20 buckets	5 00
46 files.....	6 58
1,483 lbs. ground-lines.....	444 90
346 lbs. gauging-lines.....	410 72
26 knives	15 60
12 stones.....	75
32 staffs	5 25
360 lbs. buoy-line.....	64 80
4 doz. brooms	9 60
52 gross hooks.....	109 20
23 lbs. lobster-twine	8 05
5 dories.....	130 00
Iron and copper tanks	1 27
4 shovels.....	3 00
Anchors	40 00
Oars and scoops.....	47 13
	<hr/> 1,023 25

VESSEL'S EXPENSE.

Spun yarn	\$7 48
Parceling	23 00
Leather.....	11 29
Jib hanks.....	1 30
Nails	1 32
Tinware, &c	79 50
1 anchor lost.....	48 96

Topmast (broken).....	\$12 00
Paint and painting.....	90 00
Railway fee.....	15 00
Rigger.....	47 00
Blacksmith.....	60 00
Carpenter.....	65 00
Sailmaker's repairs.....	163 00
Lumber for ice-house.....	43 00
Insurance.....	539 00
Commissions to skipper.....	465 00
40 tons ballast.....	80 00
Swivel gun.....	38 00
Tarring rigging, &c.....	14 00

1,823 85

Q. Now many of those are actually consumable during the season, so that at the end of the season what is left is of little account. But there are some items that may last over another year. Now, except in the case of some large permanent expenditures, in making up this account do they charge an article that may last one or two years to the year in which it is bought, or do they undertake to distribute it over the time for which it is likely to last?—A. No; it is charged to the vessel at the time it is procured.

Q. They don't undertake to distribute such things over the time they would probably be useful?—A. No.

Q. Would it be practicable to do that except where it might be required, as for instance in chancery proceedings?—A. No.

Q. Is that considered as giving a fair result in the end, charging the articles as they are bought, although some of them may outlast the year?—A. That is the way it is usually done.

Q. Then you know this to be an actual account furnished by Mr. Proctor?—A. Yes.

Q. It is made up according to the usage?—A. Yes.

Q. If you were asked to make an equitable assessment of all these charges, for instance, if it was an estate that required to be settled, or if it were required to assign to each year the portion of the expenses that would strictly fall to the account of that particular year, you would have to make a difference in the case of articles that lasted over this one year?—A. Yes.

Q. But that would not be the way the expense account is practically made up?—A. No.

Q. But this is the way they do the business?—A. Yes.

Q. And the statement you presented was the actual statement of the expenses of that vessel for the year taken?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever put in an account of what would be the annual expenditure, supposing the cost of such articles to be distributed over the years during which they would last?—A. No; I have not.

Q. Have you since prepared such a statement?—A. I have; it is as follows:

Average yearly expense of a Gloucester fishing vessel, engaged for nine months in the fisheries, the average life of the vessels being about 14 years.

Paint and painting, twice yearly.....	\$150 00
Marine railway, fees for hauling out.....	30 00
$\frac{1}{2}$ of new suit of sails (have to be renewed once in two years).....	300 00
Ordinary expense for repairs and storage of sails.....	40 00
$\frac{1}{2}$ of set standing rigging, \$5 for junk.....	20 00
$\frac{1}{2}$ running rigging, yearly (has to be renewed every 2 years).....	125 00
$\frac{1}{2}$ riggers, average yearly cost (overhauling rigging once in 4 years, \$75).....	18 75
$\frac{1}{2}$ of (230 fathoms $8\frac{1}{4}$ inch cable every 3 years) \$450.....	150 00

One anchor average loss yearly	\$45 00
$\frac{1}{2}$ of calking (vessel has to be recalked once in 7 years for \$140) \$20, additional cost yearly besides, \$15	35 00
Tinware and stoveware	20 00
$\frac{1}{2}$ of cook's stove (renewed once in three years, for \$30)	10 00
$\frac{1}{2}$ of cabin stove (renewed once in three years, for \$10)	3 50
Lanterns and lamp-chimneys	8 50
Stove-funnels, yearly	5 00
	<hr/>
One-half for gulf fishing, $4\frac{1}{2}$ months	959 25
	479 62

Then I have the expenses of mackerel-fishing gear for a season of $4\frac{1}{2}$ months, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, put on board of a Gloucester schooner:

Expenses of mackerel-fishing gear for a season of $4\frac{1}{2}$ months in Gulf of St. Lawrence, put on board of a Gloucester schooner. Average—

5 gross mackerel hooks, at 90c	\$4 50
$7\frac{1}{2}$ doz. mackerel lines, at \$1.50	9 37
2 cod-fishing lines fitted, \$5, less one returned	2 50
12 bbls. block-tin, at 50c	6 00
2 doz. bait-knives, at \$1.25	2 50
1 doz. splitting knives, at \$1.25	1 25
1 clam-chopper, \$2	2 00
3 nests keelers, at \$3	9 00
1 dozen scrub-brooms, at \$3	3 00
$1\frac{1}{2}$ dozen buckets	4 50
$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen adzes, \$3, less 3 returned, \$1.50	1 50
$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen flagging-irons, \$3, less 3 returned, \$1.50	1 50
5 pounds flags for barrels, at 40 cents	2 00
3 jig-molds, \$1.50, less 1 returned, 50 cents	1 00
2 ladles, \$1, worth one-half returned	50
$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen bushel-baskets, at \$6	3 00
2 bait-boxes, \$4, worth half returned	2 00
$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen bait-heavers, at \$3	1 50
15 mackerel-gaffs, at \$1.50	7 50
	<hr/>
	65 12

Q. Is there any material change to be made in the general charges for provisions, trawl-gear, &c.?—A. I don't make any. I leave the statements I have put in just as they stand, because they are actual statements of the cost of those things on a particular vessel at the time shown in the statements.

Q. Charged in the way they charged them?—A. Yes.

Q. These statements you have made for your own information. I did not ask you to do so; but these statements you have just read show what the items would be if you had to make a nice distribution of the cost over the time during which they would last?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, then, when Mr. Davies treated the statement of expense put in before as being an exact equitable assessment on each year, that was not what you meant, was it?—A. Of course not.

Q. Now, I observe in Mr. Davies' cross-examination that he took up the Daniel McPhee. The evidence is reported as follows:

Q. When was it prepared?—A. It was prepared before I left home.

Q. What was the tonnage of the Daniel McPhee?—A. About 60 tons, I think.

Q. You prepared this statement yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. From your own books?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you read the column of catches in which the 17 barrels appeared?—A. 54 $\frac{1}{2}$, 230, 263 $\frac{1}{2}$, 41, 17, 86 $\frac{1}{2}$, 244, 207, 275, 325, 310, 326 $\frac{1}{2}$, 335, 57. They are shore and gulf mixed.

Q. Will you take out the shore?—A. 57, 86 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Q. The catches on your shore appear to be small compared with the others?—A. The 86 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels were caught in five days off our shores.

Q. But the small catches appear to have been taken on your shore. The 300 barrel catches you have read were taken in the bay?—A. Not all of them.

Q. I asked you to read those which were caught on your shores. You did read them. Were not the 300 barrel catches taken in the bay?—A. Yes; those were caught in the gulf.

Now, that one column that Mr. Davies called for is of the first trips of all the vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, does that give a fair indication of the relative value of the shore and gulf fisheries?—A. I don't think it does.

Q. Why not?—A. Because there was more fishing on the shore on the second trip than on the first.

Q. The question was confined to the first trip?—A. Yes; some made only one trip in the gulf.

Q. Now, on page 383, there is a question, "Is not Mr. Steele what you call a fish merchant?" and the answer is, "He is not a fish buyer." Is that correct as it stands? What does it mean?—A. We have men in Gloucester known as buyers aside from the merchants who carry on the business.

Q. They buy cargoes when they are brought in?—A. Yes.

Q. Do they prepare them for market after they have been salted and packed?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, they are the men that cut them up into strips?—A. Cod-fish, yes.

Q. They are buyers of codfish as well as buyers of mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. Then Mr. Steele is not one of those, but sells? You are asked, "Does he sell his own fish that his vessels have caught?" and answer "He does." What do you mean by that answer?—A. I mean that he sells them to the buyers.

Q. He does not send them to market?—A. No.

Q. So he does not sell his own fish in the sense that he is a general seller, wholesale and retail, or jobber, but he sells to "buyers"?—A. Yes.

Q. In other words, he is a producer?—A. Yes.

Q. Now on page 182 you are asked and answer as follows:

Q. Take vessels fishing off your own coast. With regard to wear and tear, don't you think the wear and tear of vessels fishing off your own coast would be more than that of vessels fishing in the gulf during the months they fish there?—A. I do not.

Q. Not in the winter season?—A. We fish on our shores all the year round.

Q. Is not the wear and tear greater on your coast than in the gulf during the summer months when they fish there?—A. I should say it was.

Q. How did you understand that?—A. I supposed it to allude to the winter season.

Q. Now, comparing your wear and tear on your own coast during these 4½ months with the wear and tear in the gulf during the same period, which would be the greatest?—A. I should say in the gulf.

Q. What advantages are there on our coast apart from its being less boisterous?—A. Harbors more handy.

Q. Anything else?—A. Well, they have more facilities of seeing the storm signals to avoid danger.

Q. You have no doubt that for the same period of time our shore is less dangerous than the gulf. Now in autumn vessels are not permitted to go to the gulf. Is any vessel permitted to sail for the gulf from Gloucester after the 1st of November?—A. I think not.

Q. Do not the insurance companies go round and close up their business after the 1st November?—A. Yes; that is the general practice. It used to be the practice always to close up after the 1st November.

Q. The vessels then out were allowed to come in; they had their policies renewed or extended?—A. Yes.

Q. At certain rates?—A. Yes; increased rates.

Q. Now, turning to page 384, you are asked and answer as follows:

Q. What would you be prepared to say to-day is the profit they make on supplies furnished to the families of fishermen?—A. About ten per cent.

Q. Not more than that?—A. It would not be over that.

Q. You know that sometimes they lose the supplies?—A. I know they do.

Q. And don't they make sufficient profit to cover all that?—A. I don't think they do.

Q. You think they are not shrewd enough men to make the charge sufficient to insure them against loss?—A. They might.

Q. What do you mean by that?—A. Well, I mean this, that some might do it.

Q. Now, do they in point of fact, do the Gloucester merchants charge interest on the cash they advance to the families of seamen?—A. I don't think they do.

Q. Did you ever know an instance in which it was done?—A. No.

Q. It might be and you not know it, but your opinion is that they do not?—A. Yes.

Q. Why is it that they do not? Is the period long?—A. No; not as a general thing.

Q. And do you think they charge any more than the retail prices?—A. They do not.

Q. So as far as the families are concerned, the profits are the difference between retail and wholesale? Now is there any public opinion that bears on that sort of thing?—A. Yes; I think if any vessel-owner was to take advantage of the families of the crew, he would not get crews to go for him.

Q. The fishermen, of course, find out about it when they get home?—A. Yes; they very soon know.

Q. They are not obliged to go for the same owners again?—A. No.

Q. It is for the interest of the owners, where there is so much competition, to treat the men well?—A. Yes.

Q. Now there is another inquiry:

Q. Would you put the four leading men in Gloucester down at worth from \$20,000 to \$30,000 each?—A. I don't think anybody in the fishing business in Gloucester is worth over \$30,000.

Q. Do you mean to include the money made outside the fishing business?—A. No.

Q. Now as to Mr. Steele's property; it only goes to the value of your opinion and does not affect your credit, but I want that put right. I think you said Mr. Steele's property was taxed at \$20,000. Now state what the assessment is based on according to Massachusetts law. Is it not on what property would sell at for cash?—A. Yes.

Q. Not sold on credit? It does not of course mean a forced sale, but with reasonable notice. Now, you speak of his having nine vessels running and put them at an average of \$5,000?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, do you think that is a proper sum to put in making up the account between Mr. Steele and his own vessels?—A. I do.

Q. What do you think those nine vessels or any one of them would have sold for this year in cash, the sale being made at Gloucester with reasonable time and notice? Would they bring anything like \$5,000?—A. No.

Q. It would be difficult to determine?—A. Yes.

Q. The number put on the market affects the price?—A. Yes.

Q. The vessels being designed solely for the fishing business, would not sell as would other vessels?—A. No.

Q. But suppose Mr. Steele was living and wanted to close up his business, but was in no hurry and could take his own time about it, and could sell them for cash or at credit, and could take them to any port where there seemed to be a demand—he might, by taking plenty of time, exercise skill and judgment, and selling on credits, realize \$5,000 each, for the vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. In other words, is there any necessary connection between what nine fishing vessels would bring sold for cash on reasonable notice, not forced, and the value which ought to be taken when settling between himself and his vessels as to the result of their voyages?—A. I think there is.

Q. Do you wish to alter your estimate that in making up those accounts Mr. Steele's vessels should be entered at \$5,000 each?—A. No.

Q. You were asked a number of questions in regard to Mr. Steele's taxable property. His taxable property you first estimated at \$20,000. You afterwards thought it would be \$25,000, and you said you thought he would be worth \$35,000. When you made your first estimate you were asked what the firm was worth. Did you think at the time of including any personal property Mr. Steele might have, and real estate, disconnected with the business?—A. I did not.

Q. Do you wish to change your statement?—Are you inclined to put his property at more than \$35,000?—A. I think that is really the cash value.

Q. At the same time, you would not alter the mode of making up the accounts?—A. I think the vessels are worth \$5,000 in his business.

Q. Those vessels, no doubt, all stand in his name, but do you know whether he owns the whole of all of them?—A. I don't know. I presume he does not.

Q. Why so? He is a rich man.—A. Nearly every owner in Gloucester has more or less shares of his vessels owned by his skippers.

Q. Is it for the interest of the vessel owner that his skipper should be interested in the ship?—A. It is generally supposed so.

Q. What portion does a skipper generally own in a vessel in cases where he is not a capitalist?—A. The owner generally gives him one-fourth.

Q. And he pays for it as he can?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know whether that is a matter of personal trade, or is the captain's name entered at the custom-house?—A. There is a bond sometimes.

Q. A bond between them?—A. Yes. Sometimes a bill of sale is given and a mortgage taken back.

Q. On page 387 of your evidence there is the following:

Q. You have proved him from theory to be bankrupt beyond all redemption, when in fact he is a capitalist worth \$45,000, which exhibits the difference between the practical statement and the theory—A. Yes; but he had capital when he went into the business.

Q. Did you mean to say that \$45,000 was his capital?—A. I think I hardly answered it in that way; I might have said it, if it is so recorded.

Q. The evidence also reads:

Q. Do you state that he brought it in with him?—A. One-half of it was made in the sail-making business.

Q. Then one-half of the capital he now has was made in the sail-making business?—A. I should think so.

Q. And the rest in the fishing business during 19 years. You meant to say that he brought into the business the capital he had made as a sailmaker, and added to it from the fishing business during 19 years?—

A. Yes.

Q. On page 387 of your evidence there is the following :

Q. And that shows the values at which he settled with his men?—A. Ye .

Q. Does it show the actual cash price which he received for these 33,645 barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you explain?—A. Remember that this is for the fish and the packing which he receives when he sells the trip.

Explain what that means.—A. When he sells the fish the barrel is sold with it, so that the packing is included in the sale. In the books it is made up without charging the packing in the value of the fish; and when he sells it, he sells it with the barrel.

Q. And when he settles with his crew the packing is taken out of the price?—A. Yes; that is customary.

Q. On page 388 of your evidence there is the following :

Q. Then his expenditure for the Pharsalia was a little below the ordinary run?—A. Yes; it is below the average.

Q. And this item represents the actual expenditure taken from the books?—A. Yes.

Q. Are the items for outfit and expenses put down also from actual expenditures?—No; they are estimates.

Did you reckon there anything more than barrels packed out in making your statement for the settlement of the crew? There are more sea barrels than packed barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the difference—about 10 per cent.?—A. Yes.

Q. If barrel is exchanged for barrel do you make any allowance for 10 per cent.?—A. I see by my reply I said they are estimates. Does that apply to the Pharsalia?

Mr. DAVIES. That question related to the reason why you charged \$450, when in the sample statement it only showed \$415 as being expended.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Did you mean to apply that to the Pharsalia?—A. I did not.

Q. Have you any alteration to make that would add to the cost with respect to the barrels? Might not the cost on them and interest on them be very fairly taken off?—A. If I was going to make up the account again, I would make it up more clearly in my own mind by taking off the average cost of running and vessel's gear, and then I would make a difference between sea and packed barrels. Those barrels had to go on board, and were part of the outfit, and the increased cost should be considered. Then, again, I did not calculate anything for the barrels the bait was in. The bait was charged in net stock there with the barrels taken out—only the bait. As the bait was taken out, the barrels could be used for holding mackerel.

Q. On page 388 of your evidence you were asked :

Q. You charge \$8,500 for salt, for as many barrels at \$1 a barrel; one-half of it would be profit, and that would leave \$4,250 as profit?—A. Yes.

What does that mean?—A. If I answered "yes," I answered it without thought, because there is no such profit as that on a barrel of salt.

Q. What is about the rate of profit?—A. I should not set down the profit on a barrel of salt at more than 12½ cents or 25 cents.

Q. There are eight bushels to a hoghead?—A. Yes.

Q. A bushel of salt is a struck measure, and does not hold so much as a bushel of other articles?—A. Yes.

Q. The following questions were put to you, by Mr. Davies, on page 389 :

Q. I find from your statements that after the Washington Treaty was entered into, Mr. Steele withdrew his vessels from your shore fishery and concentrated all his efforts on the bay; am I correct in making that statement?—A. In 1870 and 1871 he did not send any vessels to the bay.

Q. But in 1872 he commenced sending them to the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. And he has sent them there ever since?—A. Yes.

Q. And he has since sent none to fish on your shore?—A. No.

Q. Since 1872 he has sent none to fish on your shore, but has sent all his vessels to the bay?—A. Yes.

Have you any statement to show how Mr. Steele distributed his vessels? In 1858 how many vessels had he?—A. In 1858 he fitted 8 schooners.

Q. How were they distributed?—A. All 8 schooners went into the bay, and one went to the shore one day.

Q. In 1859 how many vessels had he?—A. He fitted 10; all went to the bay, and none to the shore.

Q. In 1860?—A. Fitted 11; 8 to the bay, and three to the shore.

Q. 1861?—A. Fitted 11; 7 to the bay, and 4 to the shore.

Q. 1862?—A. Fitted 11; 5 went to the bay, 2 to the shore after they returned from the bay.

Q. 1863?—A. Fitted 9; 6 went to the bay, 2 to the shore for one month and 24 days, after returning from the bay.

Q. 1864?—A. Fitted 8; 8 went to the bay, none to the shore.

Q. 1865?—A. Fitted 8; 8 went to the bay, none to the shore.

Q. 1866?—A. Fitted 10; 10 went to the bay, none to the shore.

Q. 1867?—A. Fitted 10; 9 went to the bay, 1 to the shore for 18 days after returning from the bay.

Q. 1868?—A. Fitted 10; 5 went to the bay, the rest went cod-fishing.

Q. 1869?—A. Fitted 8; 6 went to the bay, none to the shore.

Q. 1870?—A. Fitted 7; none went to the bay, 5 to the shore.

Q. 1871?—A. Fitted 6; none went to the bay, 3 to the shore.

Q. Now comes the first year of the Washington Treaty. How many vessels did he fit in 1872?—A. 10 vessels; 2 went to the bay and 2 to the shore, and the rest went cod-fishing.

Q. 1873?—A. Fitted 8; 4 went to the bay, none to the shore, and 4 codfishing.

Q. 1874?—A. Fitted 9; 3 went to the bay, the rest went codfishing.

Q. 1875?—A. Fitted 9; 3 went to the bay.

Q. 1876?—A. Fitted 13; 5 went to the bay.

Q. Taking all those years together, do you see any striking difference in bay-fishing before and after 1872?—A. I do not.

Q. You find that many years long before the Washington Treaty he did not send any vessels shore-fishing. Did he ever do much at shore-fishing?—A. No.

Q. Did he ever go into it fully?—A. No. I don't think he ever owned a seiner.

Q. Therefore he never tried seining on the shore?—A. No.

Q. He did not much enter into the mackerel-fishing on our shores?—A. No.

Q. His shore-mackerel business is no test of the general shore-mackerel business?—A. No.

Q. You know that the word chartering sometimes means hiring and sometimes letting. In speaking of chartering, did you mean to say that there were no cases of chartering vessels either in the form of letting

or hiring vessels for fishing in Gloucester?—A. There are cases of hiring vessels for fishing.

Q. Who does it?—A. It is generally done by outside vessels.

Q. Who hires them?—A. Sometimes a successful skipper will charter a vessel.

Q. You mean hire a vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. Do Gloucester merchants, who are fitters-out and producers of fish, let their vessels?—A. No.

Q. Do they hire vessels?—A. Some do, but it is very seldom done; there are merchants who do not own vessels.

Q. The business of hiring vessels does not amount to anything important. Do you mean to say there is no such thing?—A. No.

Q. What do you think is the average life of a fair fishing-vessel, not an extraordinarily good or unusually bad vessel?—A. The average life of the vessels owned in Gloucester, in 1876, was 13.34 years.

Q. Do you make that out from documents?—A. From an annual publication published by John S. E. Rogers, of Gloucester, Mass.

Extract handed in as follows :

The years are given in which 467 of the vessels in the list were built, the balance being boats of which no record is kept of their age. A comparison of them will indicate pretty nearly the depressions and prosperity of the fishing business during the last twenty-five years. The oldest vessel in the district is the schooner Magnet, of Annisquam, which was built in 1837; the next oldest is the schooner Gilde, of Manchester, built in 1839. The oldest vessel in Gloucester Harbor is the schooner Meteor, built in 1844. Each year since 1844 has furnished one or more of the vessels which make up our list, as follows :

Year.	No.	Year.	No.	Year.	No.
1876	23	1864	5	1852	13
1875	38	1863	5	1851	13
1874	22	1862	2	1850	6
1873	12	1861	1	1849	6
1872	13	1860	24	1848	2
1871	22	1859	22	1847	7
1870	28	1858	16	1846	4
1869	30	1857	9	1845	1
1868	29	1856	4	1844	1
1867	35	1855	5	1839	1
1866	35	1854	5	1837	1
1865	14	1853	13		

Q. Do you suppose it to be correct on that point?—A. Yes; for the compiler is very accurate in getting up statistics.

Q. That is the average age of vessels existing at the time?—A. Yes. I may explain that this book gives the year each vessel was built and the number of vessels built in each year down to 1876.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. Do you mean that the average life of a vessel would be about 14 years?—A. I think so.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg :

Q. Do you mean that it is as long as the vessels can go a trip?—A. Of the vessels in the fishing business, owned in Gloucester, the average age was a trifle under 14 years.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. When a vessel is brought into Gloucester, not new, do the tables show where she was built?—A. The table shows the year when and where built.

Q. Some vessels are pretty old?—A. One vessel in the table was built in 1837.

Q. You have said that Mr. Steele never did any seining on the American shore?—A. I don't think he ever did.

Q. Seining has come into general vogue, has it not?—A. Yes.

Mr. DAVIES. The years I took were the years of the Reciprocity Treaty when there was no seining.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. As to insurance. Those merchants of Gloucester who own vessels form a company; that is really a sort of annual company?—A. A company formed every year.

Q. It closes up every year?—A. Yes.

Q. The day it expires is 1st November?—A. They have now organized it to continue the year round.

Q. But there is a new company once a year?—A. Yes.

Q. All matters are closed up each year?—A. Yes.

Q. If the vessel do not return by a certain date a sum is placed in the suspense account?—A. Yes.

Q. They don't actually pay premiums and receive dividends?—A. No.

Q. They give their notes, and at the end of the year there is an assessment?—A. They are assessed from time to time.

Q. And at the end of the year, if necessary, there is an assessment?—A. There is a final assessment.

Q. There is no dividend paid?—A. No.

Q. The crew have nothing to do with insurances?—A. No.

Q. Do you know how the owner is able to assign to each vessel the amount it ought to pay?—A. Each vessel is charged with the amount for insurance paid out during the year to the company.

Q. It is divided among different owners?—A. Each vessel is put in at a certain valuation, according to her age; the insurance amounts to so much, and each owner is charged with the insurance on that vessel.

Q. They don't actually pay out that insurance, do they?—A. Yes; if it is not paid out in one season it is in another. They give their notes, and when there is an assessment on the insurance they pay the amount.

Q. They are not charged on an ordinary note?—A. They give a premium note.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. If there is no assessment made, the premium note, I suppose, is returned to him?—A. I presume so.

Q. You have stated that the average age of fishing-vessels sailing out of Gloucester is fourteen years?—A. Yes.

Q. Some of the vessels are, I suppose, twenty-five years old?—A. Yes; some more than that.

Q. One nearly forty years old?—A. Yes.

Q. I see by this book that 22 vessels were built in 1876?—A. Yes.

Q. 38 in 1875; 22 in 1874; 12 in 1873; 13 in 1872; 24 in 1860; 24 in 1859; 18 in 1858; 90 vessels were built previous to 1858, and would be between 19 years old to 40 years?—A. Yes.

Q. In regard to packing; in the statement you made up of Mr. Steele's vessels you told me you took the prices of his mackerel from the books?—A. Yes.

Q. This statement you made up representing the voyages of 107 of Mr. Steele's vessels does not include packing?—A. No.

Q. You were asked a question about Mr. Steele's capital, and you said about one-half had been made by him in the sail-making business, and the other half since. Do you really know as a matter of fact what Mr. Steele's capital is?—A. I do not.

Q. It may be, for anything you know, \$70,000, \$80,000, or \$90,000?
—A. It may be.

Q. You have no means of knowing what is his capital?—A. I have no means of knowing.

Q. You really don't know what Mr. Steele's capital is, and you have no means of knowing?—A. I do not. When you asked me that question previously I was entirely unprepared, and I gave you an estimated value.

Q. You now say you really don't know what his capital is?—A. I do not; only from my judgment, and from the common estimation of his valuation in the city. I never went to the assessor's books to see what his property was valued at.

Q. There is one answer which struck me as a little curious. In reply to a question by Mr. Dana you said the wear and tear of a vessel on your coast is less than the wear and tear of a vessel in Bay St. Lawrence?—A. I think so.

Q. The reason you gave was because their harbors were so handy?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it not in evidence before this Commission that the general fishing is from 15 to 100 miles off your coast?—A. I have referred to the shore mackerel-fleet and the bay mackerel-fleet in my estimate.

Q. Does not the American fleet fishing for mackerel off your shores fish from 15 to 100 miles off shore?—A. Yes.

Q. Is not Georges Bank one of the places where they fish?—A. Sometimes, but very seldom there.

Q. It is a very dangerous place?—A. Yes; in the winter season.

Q. Don't you know that the vessels fishing for mackerel in Bay St. Lawrence fish within 50, 40, or 20 miles of the shore?—A. That may be.

Q. Therefore your reason cannot be correct, when your vessels fishing off your coast are further away from the harbors than vessels in the bay?—A. Off the New England coast there is more sea-room. You know that in Massachusetts Bay they have plenty of sea-room, while in the gulf they have not.

Q. Do you mean to contend that the wear and tear of a vessel fishing off the American coast in November is not greater than the wear and tear of a vessel fishing in the Bay St. Lawrence in August?—A. Of course not; it is not a parallel case.

Q. You mean only during the months they fish in the bay?—A. And the same months on our shore.

Q. But the months they fish off your shores when they cannot fish on our shores, the wear and tear is greater than during the fishing months in the gulf?—A. For sails and rigging the wear and tear in the gulf is just as much as fishing on our shores.

Q. How can that be?—A. Because in the gulf you are using sails all the time.

Q. Take a vessel fishing mackerel in November off your coast, is not the wear and tear of that vessel much greater than that of a mackerel-fishing vessel in the bay in August?—A. I believe there was a severe gale down your coast in August.

Q. Take July?—A. Off our coast in November I should say it was decidedly rougher.

Q. Should you say that the wear and tear of a vessel was decidedly greater on your coast?—A. I should say it was somewhat greater.

Q. You are not a practical fisherman now and have not been so for a great many years?—A. No.

Q. You have no practical interest in ascertaining the prices?—A. No.

Q. Since you were here on Friday you have made up a statement, differing somewhat in principle and also in some of its details from that you submitted on Friday?—A. Yes.

Q. From whom did you get the statement that the fishing gear of a vessel cost about \$45?—A. I made it up from my own idea of the things, and when I sat down and enumerated them I found they amounted to a good deal more than I had stated.

Q. The first statement you made was a hap-hazard one. Had you not taken the trouble to put down the items that made up \$45?—A. I had not put down the items. I took the cost of a seiner in 1875, the fishing gear of which amounted to nearly \$50.

Q. Then you took it from the highest cost we have had before us yet?—A. No.

Q. Is it not the Centennial one?—A. I allude to that one.

Q. The cost of the vessel was submitted to the Centennial Commissioners?—A. Yes.

Q. In this statement you make the cost much higher?—A. I do.

Q. Tell me who did you consult with regard to the articles and prices since Friday?—A. I consulted myself as regards the articles.

Q. Who did you consult with?—A. I did not consult with any one.

Q. You made that up without consultation?—A. I made it up from my recollection of the articles which went on board of a vessel.

Q. Do you mean to say you made it up without consulting any practical man?—A. I do. I asked in regard to the prices.

Q. Whom did you consult?—A. With a Gloucester man who fits vessels.

Q. What is his name?—A. Mr. Wonson.

Q. Of the prices, previous to consulting him, you had no knowledge?—A. I had knowledge of the prices in 1860, 1861, and 1862.

Q. That was 14 years ago?—A. The basis on which Mr. Steele's voyages are made up is on an average for 19 years past.

Q. What does this statement purport to be; is it the average of a number of years?—A. It is an average of 17 years on which the voyages of Mr. Steele's vessels were based.

Q. I thought it explained the mackerel fishery at the present time?—A. No.

Q. Have you got a price-list for each of the seventeen years the prices of which Mr. Wonson gave you?—A. No.

Q. He guessed the average price for seventeen years of each of those articles, or was it arrived at by a comparison of actual figures?—A. I knew the prices of those articles, according to my recollection, in 1860, 1861, and 1862. I compared the prices of those years with the prices now, to get at my estimate.

Q. I speak in regard to your conversation with Mr. Wonson. Did he remember the prices of each of the articles during the seventeen years?—A. Of course not.

Q. Nor could you?—A. Of course not.

Q. Therefore, if neither of you could recollect the prices, how could you make up the statement?—A. I made it up according to the best of my judgment.

Q. The value of that would consist in the means of knowing. You did not possess price-lists for each year to ascertain the amount?—A. No.

Q. The second statement is \$20 over the former statement?—A. Yes.

Q. And that estimate was submitted to the Centennial Commis-

sion?—A. \$50 for a seiner, not for a gulf fisherman. Mackerel lines were an expense, and I did not take any account of them in the seiner.

Q. If you put half a dozen adze on board, will they not be any good at the end of the season?—A. Yes, but they would not be worth so much, and they would not all come back.

Q. This statement is made up to the best of your judgment?—A. Yes, I think you will find the facts warrant me in saying that it is far below the cost of those articles during seventeen years.

Q. It is fourteen years since you have been engaged in the business?—A. I know that the prices since I left the business have been a great deal higher.

Q. You cannot pretend to claim for your evidence on this point the same value as that of a practical man in business?—A. Of course not.

Q. You would not have known how to make up the statement except for Mr. Wonson?—A. I would, except the prices.

Q. You could not get the prices without Mr. Wonson?—A. I could not get the prices to-day. I had the prices for 1860, 1861, and 1862 in my mind.

Q. Those prices would not give you the average for seventeen years?—A. It would give the commencement.

Q. What was the price of buckets in 1872?—A. 25 cents apiece.

Q. You put them down in the statement at \$3 a dozen?—A. Yes.

Q. This other statement you have made up is also different from the one you had put in?—A. Yes.

Q. Why did you make it different?—A. Because that is the actual amount.

Q. The expenditure on what vessel does it represent?—A. It represents any vessel.

Q. It is not an actual representation of any given vessel?—A. Of course not.

Q. It is a supposititious statement?—A. You may call it so.

Q. I want to know whether you submit that to the Commission as a statement of actual expenditure incurred on a given vessel, or as a supposititious statement?—A. Not for any given vessel, but I submit it as being, if anything, below the actual expenditure for any vessel running out of Gloucester.

Q. What you suppose to be below?—A. I think it is.

Q. You don't pretend to submit it as having been copied out of the accounts of any vessel?—A. No; it cannot be done.

Q. It was not taken from any given vessel?—A. No.

Q. Nor from any practical man's accounts?—A. No.

Q. It was made up out of your own head?—A. Yes, the same as any one estimating would make it up.

Q. The vessel's expense account which you submitted, you explained you know nothing about, but that it was handed in by you from Mr. Procter?—A. That is all. I know nothing about it.

Q. Mr. Procter was examined here?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Turn to page 375 of your evidence, and you will find the following under the head of Recapitulation:

Trawl gear	\$1,023 25
Vessel's expense account	1,823 85
Provisions, &c.	1,426 03
General charges	1,135 50
Total cost of running	5,408 63

Do I understand that is the exact annual charge of a vessel during 302 days she was running?—A. I do.

Q. Under the miscellaneous charges, amounting to \$1,135.50, there is an item, 200 tons ice, \$600. Do you mean to say that a vessel engaged fishing will use 200 tons ice in 302 days?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you show me in your trip-book any such cases? Turn up the *Pharsalia*.—A. That was a Grand Bank trip after Grand Bank codfish. This is a trip after fresh halibut. The cases are not parallel.

Q. Take a fresh-fish trawler and show me a consumption of 200 tons of ice in 302 days.—A. Here are the items for the schooner *Marathon*: 25 tons of ice, April to May, 1874; 23 tons, May 6 to June 14; 28 tons, June 22 to July 31; 30 tons, August 4 to September 12; 15 tons, December and January; total, 131 tons. Probably there are other vessels that had more.

Q. That is the highest quantity you can find?—A. No doubt I can find a parallel case to that in the statement, because it is common. It depends on how successful the vessel is in taking fish as to how much ice is used. It is not an extraordinary occurrence to use 200 tons of ice a year.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. I understood you to say that the abstracts you put in are correct?—A. After I had prepared the abstracts, to make sure they were correct I spent almost as much time in verifying them as I had in making them out. They agree within four cents.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. In regard to bait used in mackerel-fishing; I suppose the quantity of fish taken is not generally an exact indication of the quantity of bait used?—A. No. Sometimes they will throw 50 or 75 barrels of bait and not get 20 barrels of mackerel.

Q. So it need excite no wonder that a good deal of bait had been used with a small catch?—A. No.

Summary of the voyages made by the fishing-vessels of George Steele.

[Recapitulation of foregoing voyages, showing in condensed form the whole totals from 1858 to 1877; showing time employed in cod and halibut fishing, and American shore and Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery, with amount of catch, value, &c.]

Year.	No. of vessels.	From time of sailing.	Gross stock, or value of catch.	One-half of net stock, or vessel's share.	No. of vessels.	Gulf mackerel fishery.	Barrels caught, "Bay".	Value of catch, or gross stock.	Time employed, from time of sailing.	Vessel's share, or one-half net stock.	No. of vessels.	American shore.	Time employed.	No. of barrels caught.	Gross stock, or value of catch.	Vessel's share.	From time of sailing.	Total time employed.	(Gross stock, or total value of catch.	Vessel's total stock. (Expenses are taken from gross stock.)	Vessel or crew's share, or one-half of "net stock."	Schooners fitted.	Remarks.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
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"The above summary of the voyages made by George Steele's vessels is explained as follows: The 'time employed' is the actual time employed from the time she sailed on her first voyage until she returned for the last time before refitting for mackerel fishing or for hauling up at the end of the season. Six weeks' additional time should be added for time spent in fitting and unfitting the vessels for the whole season—each year three weeks each for each kind of fishing, cod-fishing and mackereling. The whole value of the vessels' catch is called the 'gross stock,' from which is taken the 'stock expenses,' such as ice, bait, and the expenses attending them, 'nippers' for the hands of the fishermen in hauling their lines, and one-fourth of one per cent. of the gross stock for the widow and orphan fund, all of which are more clearly shown in a trip settlement of a mackerel voyage."

Schooner Asteroid.

[Tonnage, 94½ tons; average number of hands fishing, 8; mackereling, 14.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishing.		Gross stock or value of catch.	Vessel's share, or one-half of net stock; crew's same.		Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught and repacked out.	Value of catch.		Vessel's or crew's share of catch, one-half of net stock.		Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel or crew's share.
	Mos.	Days.		Mos.	Days.	Mos.	Days.		Mos.	Days.	Mos.	Days.	Mos.	Days.			
1853.....	4	16	\$2,214 39					240	\$2,690 50		\$1,203 57						
1859.....	4	20	2,746 33			4	25	175	2,245 67		913 83						
1860.....	4	14	1,978 05			4	8										
1861.....	5	13	1,797 80												532	\$3,516 00	\$1,699 13
1862.....	9	6	5,329 07			3	5	218	1,373 55		528 02						
1863.....	4	18	4,536 60														
1864.....	4	20	3,412 62			3	11	339	5,339 69		2,528 16						
1865.....	3	12	6,420 27			3	26	699	8,384 78		3,597 39						
1866.....	4	9	4,354 17			4	10	564	7,256 61		3,443 92						
1867.....	4	8	3,118 51			4	12	266	3,831 26		1,653 05						
1868.....	1	13	1,832 39			4	12	218	2,222 69		1,970 55						
	50	29	32,040 11			32	26	2,919	33,844 15		14,838 69		3	24	532	3,516 00	1,699 13

Sold in spring of 1868.

Schooner Granada.

[59 75-100 tons; hands employed cod and halibut fishing, 9; hands mackereling, 15.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishing.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share, net stock.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence, mackerel-fishing.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	American shore mackerel fishery.
	Mos.	Days.			Mos.	Days.				
1858.....	4	17	\$2,213 07	\$1,018 97	2 trips.	4 11	383	\$4,929 91	\$2,307 20	
1859.....	4	14	2,121 20	955 28	2 trips.	4 20	119	1,643 69	676 97	
1860.....	4	19	1,779 14	763 00	3	28	166	1,780 58	741 34	
1861.....	5	29	1,605 65	693 06	3	11	256	1,329 24	581 87	
1862.....	5	24	2,538 54	1,148 73	2	27	263	2,311 39	1,049 69	
1863.....	4	21	4,041 86	1,815 16	4	4	458	4,908 57	2,165 52	None.
1864.....	5	5	3,756 06	1,787 13	3	21	540	6,631 08	2,706 21	
1865.....	3	16	6,349 04	2,931 39	2 trips.	4 20	539	6,942 69	3,250 40	
1866.....	3	22	5,321 03	2,504 60	2 trips.	4 26	375	5,631 88	2,550 11	
1867.....	4	16	3,874 78	1,635 89	3	12	189	2,348 91	843 02	
1868.....	6	17	7,348 57	3,026 40	2	6	133	2,507 39	956 29	
1869.....	8	10	9,112 59	3,955 26						
Total.....	62	.....	50,161 53	22,234 87	41	6	3,424	40,965 33	17,768 62	

Schooner Iodi.

[Average, 9 hands cod and halibut fishing; 14 hands mackereling.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in American shore fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.
	Mos.	Days.								Mos.	Days.			
1858.....	4	9	\$1,713 84	\$739 71	Two trips	5	214	\$2,456 38	\$1,080	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1859.....	3	28	1,356 95	620 83	Two trips	5	303	3,483 05	1,522 48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1860.....	5	21	1,888 51	833 25	Two trips	7	172	1,546 45	773 22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1861.....	3	29	1,276 86	538 17	Two trips	5	411	2,042 89	876 76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1862.....	5	10	2,747 95	1,226 17	.....	2	212	1,560 00	670 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1863.....	5	2	3,492 77	1,795 50	.....	1	25	2,851 88	1,299 69	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1864.....	5	1	2,998 99	1,315 84	.....	3	453	5,334 75	2,135 13	1	2	86	\$617 59	\$288 54
1865.....	3	21	5,852 68	2,716 61	Two trips	4	509	6,113 18	2,763 46	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1866.....	6	3	5,535 95	2,445 25	.....	9	126	2,907 38	853 68	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1867.....	9	8	7,345 51	3,082 63	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1868.....	8	24	4,241 34	1,812 91	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	61	6	38,951 35	17,126 87	33	22	2,687	27,395 96	11,974 42	1	2	86	617 59	288 54

Schooner Marengo.

[About 85 tons, old; burnt at sea by bark Tacony June 22, 1863; 9 hands fishing, 13 hands mackereling.]

Years.	Time employed in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share: crew's the same.	Time employed in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling.		Barrels of "bay" mackerel caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in American shore mackerel fishing.		Barrels caught of shore mackerel.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.
	Mos.	Days.			Mos.	Days.				Mos.	Days.			
1858.....	5	9	\$2,929 07	\$1,304 22	3	8	194½	\$2,133 12	\$866 43	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1859.....	4	13	2,309 96	1,012 75	4	9	82½	Two trips. 1,162 68	423 59	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1860.....	7	22	5,098 35	2,960 13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1861.....	7	21	3,422 32	1,506 54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1862.....	9	13	6,194 36	2,819 15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1863.....	3	11	4,665 10	2,053 32	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	37	29	24,616 36	10,958 11	7	17	277½	3,295 80	1 390 02	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Schooner Wm. Parkman.

Dismasted August 23, 1863, towed into Nova Scotia and sold.

[Tonnage about 80; hands employed cod-fishing, 9; mackereling, 14.]

Years.	Time employed in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.		Vessel's share; crew's the same.		Barrels of "bay" mackerel caught.		Value of catch.		Vessel's share; crew's the same.		Barrels "shore" mackerel caught.		Value of catch.		Vessel's share; crew's the same.	
	Mon.	Days.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel trips.		Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Time in American shore mackerel fishery.	
1858.....	3	17	One trip.	3	15	1914	1914	1914	\$1,942 84	\$971 42	1,153 53	344	344	344	\$295 76	\$98 13	2,878 66	98 13
1859.....	3	13	Two trips.	4	3	2114	2114	2114	2,778 08	1,153 53	1,153 53	344	344	344	\$295 76	\$98 13	2,878 66	98 13
1860.....	3	22	One trip.	3	17	1814	1814	1814	1,810 47	753 71	753 71	344	344	344	\$295 76	\$98 13	2,878 66	98 13
1861.....	7	19	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1862.....	4	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1863.....	3	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	30	18	.....	.....	.....	5633	5633	5633	6,531 39	2,878 66	2,878 66	344	344	344	\$295 76	\$98 13	2,878 66	98 13

Schooner Samuel Gilbert.

[9 hands fishing; 14 hands mackereling.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel-fishing.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in American shore mackerel-fishing.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.
	Mos.	Days.			Mos.	Days.				Mos.	Days.			
1858.....	5	27	\$1,923 88	\$407 41	2	21	149	\$1,643 83	\$770 29					
1859.....	4	29	2,999 36	903 98	4	1	166	2,298 80	961 15					
1860.....	4	26	1,467 99	568 01	3	27	158	1,993 02	842 76					
1861.....					2 trips.	6	304	1,418 07	548 40					
1862.....					2	28	299	1,635 11	758 68	5	177	879 99	\$373 73	
1863.....	1	19	712 32	272 38										
1864.....	4	7	4,612 94	2,118 03	3	14	353	4,148 02	1,759 04		22	35	244 27	96 63
1865.....	2	18	1,784 91	728 70	2 trips.	3	396	5,440 00	2,549 15					
1866.....	3	9	2,559 03	1,112 56	9 trips.	10	465	7,181 33	3,402 41					
1867.....	3	19	3,015 12	1,386 11	5	4	205	2,332 89	899 44					
1868.....	3	7	2,682 96	1,199 42	4		85	1,633 27	617 01					
1869.....	5	6	3,475 99	1,556 80	3	8	106	1,641 90	713 76					
1870.....										5	7	321	2,544 92	1,105 75
1871.....														
Total.....	39	17	24,334 40	10,563 40	41	2	2,686	31,257 24	13,832 09	8	4	533	3,669 18	1,576 11

* Seized July 24, 1871, near Parquet Island, Lower Canada; detained at Quebec until May, 1872, and released on payment of costs and charges of seizure; vessel sold in Quebec May 10, 1872.

Schooner Alhambra.

[New tonnage, 57 16-100 tons; 9 hands sailing; 15 hands mackerel-ding.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.
	Mos.	Days.			Mos.	Days.				Mos.	Days.			
1858.							338	\$3,575 54	\$1,651 40		1	70	\$977 62	\$04 08
1859.	4	19	\$3,639 88		2 trips.	4 1 22	253	3,538 57	1,551 28					
1860.	5	18	3,187 06		2 trips.	4 20	297	4,279 49	2,065 75					
1861.	6	14	3,873 13		3 3 11	298	2,388 65	1,083 57			23	62	196 39	76 01
1862.	4	5	1,681 57		3 3	346	2,936 27	1,375 13						
1863.	3	23	3,402 50		2 trips.	4 3	639	6,755 65	3,309 37					
1864.	4	17	4,265 42		3 3	525	6,672 21	3,010 31						
1865.	2	16	3,889 24		2 trips.	3 26	519	6,993 63	3,212 26					
1866.	4	22	6,880 38		4 2	489	8,293 43	3,573 03						
1867.	4	7	3,231 33		2 28	222	3,619 90	1,619 67			18	23	235 03	82 37
1868.	4	8	3,015 49		2 trips.	4 14	99	1,907 19	611 91					
1869.	4	16	4,273 28		3 24	247	3,198 58	1,398 24						
1870.														
1871.											5	28	4,946 86	2,913 21
1872.											5	20	2,809 94	1,305 01
1873.	4	12	3,842 06		3 3	297	3,401 60	1,478 48			6	4	2,855 54	1,219 46
1874.	1	25	3,114 58											
	55	21	47,295 92		49	24	4,550	57,002 71	25,650 00		19	13	11,411 38	4,980 14

* Forgeries mostly.

Schooner Prairie Flower.

[[Old tonnage, about 96 tons; 15 hands mackereling.]]

Year.	Time in cod and halibut fishery.		Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.		Vessel's share.	Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.		Vessel's share.	Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.		Vessel's share.
	Mo.	Days.	Mo.	Days.					Mo.	Days.								
1859			2	8	159	\$2,122 83		\$936 41										

Schooner St. Cloud.

[About 120 tons; 17 hands mackereling.]

1859			3	21	199	\$2,556 93		\$1,029 46										
1860			5	28	337	3,976 43		1,922 21										
			9	19	596	6,533 36		2,951 67										

Schooner Samantha C. Steele.

[About 120 tons; 17 hands mackereling.]

1861			2		161	\$716 47		\$300 11			154	\$1,149 04		\$509 05
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Schooner Madame Roland.

[62 39.100 tons. 10 hands fishing; 15 hands mackereling.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.
	Mos.	Days.			Mos.	Days.				Mos.	Days.			
1860	7	26	\$1,051 53	\$494 76	3	18	329	\$3,107 47	\$1,347 76	1	3	94	\$419 92	\$170 96
1861	15		3,245 57	1,467 38										
1862	11	11	5,387 30	2,378 37	3	11	442	5,362 90	2,554 45					
1863	5	24	5,597 95	2,466 86	3	26	623	7,836 86	3,224 45					
1864	5	8	4,443 23	2,027 17	3	8	469	6,349 48	2,869 25					
1865	4	2	8,150 35	3,742 43	4	25	449	6,425 71	2,792 46					
1866	1	18	1,450 48	593 39	4	29	439	5,756 87	2,464 52					
1867	4	13	5,087 13	2,213 01	3	9	221	4,156 16	1,668 73					
1868	4	13	4,062 15	1,973 90	4	5	212	3,366 54	1,191 74	2	13	229	3,203 75	1,480 75
1869	6	12	5,471 82	2,377 56										
1870	6	12	3,450 11	1,319 08										
1871	8	22	7,171 32	3,044 79										
1872	10	29	10,197 07	4,781 08										
1873	10	20	12,010 79	5,886 22										
1874	9	4	10,139 11	4,418 13										
1875	8	16	8,353 87	3,574 15										
1876	9	13	6,562 59	2,639 23										
Total	113	11	102,342 37	45,397 51	32	....	3,124	42,364 99	18,113 36	3	16	323	3,683 67	1,651 71

Schooner Everett Steele.

[70 54-100 tons. Average, 10 hands codfishing; 16 hands mackereling.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.		Vessel's share.		Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.		Value of catch.		Vessel's share.		Time in American shore mackerel fishing.		Number of barrels caught.		Value of catch.		Vessel's share.	
	Mon.	Days.					Mon.	Days.							Mon.	Days.						
1864.....	2	6					3	9														
1865.....	3	10	\$3,511 88		\$1,721 94		Two trips.		664		\$7,964 13		\$3,133 06									
1866.....	4	9	7,742 11		3,675 70		4	18	684		8,490 65		3,925 49									
			7,118 98		3,161 14		Two trips.		391		6,016 50		2,710 90									
1867.....	6	3			3,026 66		3	26	310		4,070 51		1,591 32									
1868.....	10	25	6,586 32		6,873 56																	
1869.....	9	16	14,726 73		7,479 99																	
1870.....	5	21	16,806 94		2,821 06																	
1871.....	5	27	6,619 98		3,107 07																	
1872.....	9	23	7,133 43		3,961 35																	
1873.....	10	3	8,968 52		4,128 79																	
1874.....	11	21	8,877 10		5,071 61																	
1875.....	8	18	10,981 69		3,457 77																	
1876.....	9	27	7,836 85		3,264 97																	
Thirteen years.....	97	29	115,018 75		51,737 61		15	23	2,049		26,541 79		11,360 67		4	12	586		6,808 25		3,028 84	

Schooner George B. Loring.

[Tonnage, 58 50-100. Hands fishing, 10; hands mackereling, 15.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishing.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fish- ing.	Number of bar-rels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	American shore mackerel fishery.
	Mos.	Days.							
1-66	3	16	\$4,140 37	\$1,853 33	2 trips.	365	\$5,394 31	\$2,434 73	
1-67	6	7	5,557 37	2,546 54	3	257	3,291 22	1,356 47	
1-68	10	22	11,350 12	5,101 91					
1-69	5	4	5,093 44	2,487 56	2	132	2,198 87	951 69	
1-70	8	19	7,976 22	3,158 54					
1-71	9		3,352 38	2,488 77					
1-72	8	29	6,147 84	2,653 89					
1-73	5	7	2,642 90	1,150 73	2 trips.	387	3,806 77	1,674 62	None.
1-74	9	22	8,495 28	3,810 72	4	28			
1-75	5		5,780 46	2,480 98	2 trips.	324	3,935 80	1,759 98	
1-76	11	2	6,208 66	2,508 52	3	25			
Total	83	8	70,245 33	30,241 49	19	18	18,626 97	8,207 49	

Schooner Franklin Snow.

[Tonnage 66 34-100 tons.

Average hands fishing, 11; mackereling, 16. Lost on Grand Bank with all hands, March, 1872.]

Years.	Time in cod and hal- ibut fishing.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.		Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mack- erel-fishing.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Value of vessel's share.	Time in American shore mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share or crew's the same.
	Mos.	Days.		Mos.	Days.	Mos.	Days.								
1866.....	4	25	\$6,563 55	\$2,904 99	4	20	616	\$9,501 76	\$4,204 42						
1867.....	10	8	15,676 84	7,403 19	3	16	467	8,632 72	5,037 58						
1868.....	5	28	8,438 23	3,809 83											
1869.....	10	2	11,032 03	4,899 54	2	6	239	4,626 98	2,076 45						
1870.....	2	33	4,117 83	1,878 37											
1871.....		18	1,227 87	571 48											
1872.....															
Total	34	24	47,106 35	21,467 40	10	12	1,322	22,761 46	11,338 45		6	5	484	3,752 51	1,637 33

Schooner Oliver Eldridge.

(65 86-100 tons. 11 hands fishing; 17 hands mackereling. Went ashore at Magdalen Islands, August 24, 1873.)

Years.	Time in cod and hal- ibut fishing.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mak- erel fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in American fishery.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.
	Mos.	Days.			Mos.	Days.				Mos.	Days.			
1872.	10	16	\$15,997 40	\$7,551 39	1	14	225	\$2,048 54	\$863 56	.	.	.	.	.
1873.	6	12	8,430 46	3,905 71	4	20	433	5,785 85	1,135 32	.	.	.	.	.
1874.	.	.	.	.	2	27	226	3,543 66	1,504 05	.	.	.	.	.
1875.	5	3	6,084 86	2,678 67	3	13	231	2,410 09	1,037 84	.	.	.	.	.
1876.	5	12	3,591 90	1,378 07	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	27	13	34,104 62	15,513 84	12	14	1,115	10,788 14	4,440 77	.	.	.	.	.

Schooner Knight Templar.

(Bought in 1872.)

[Tonnage, 73 26-100 tons. Hands, 20 mackereling; 12 bands codfishing on Grand Banks.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishing.		Value of catch.		Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mack-erel-fishing.		Number of barrels mackerel caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	American shore mackerel fishery.
	Mos.	Days.	Mos.	Days.		Mos.	Days.				
1872.....	6	6	.....	.....	.....	2	10	304½	\$2,666 84	\$1,932 33	
1873.....	6	12	\$7,660 94	\$3,560 66	.....	3	13	.....	.....	809 59	
1874.....	6	12	10,729 74	4,952 71	.....	.....	.....	381	2,193 25	.....
1875.....	9	2	8,691 01	4,093 33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1876.....	6	23	6,983 65	3,213 57	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	28	13	34,064 64	15,730 27	.....	5	23	685½	4,840 09	2,131 92	

Schooner Jamestown.

[69 tons. Mackereling, 17 hands.]

1876.....	3	19	126	\$1,724 46	\$737 30	
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Schooner Marathon.

(Now, December, 1873.)

[Tonnage, 68 43-100. 11 hands fishing; 15 hands mackereling.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery.		Number of barrels "bay" caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.
	Mos.	Days.			Mos.	Days.			
1874.	11	2	\$9,535 69	\$4,147 61	2	24	206	\$4,092 38	\$1,802 97
1875.	5	3	5,530 23	2,324 33	2	24	68	813 00	250 11
1876.	4	16	4,259 94	1,729 45	3	16			
	20	21	19,315 86	8,201 59	6	10	334	4,905 38	2,113 08

Schooner H. A. Duncan.

(Now in 1876.)

[87 70-100 tons. Mackereling, 18 bands.]

1876.	10	16	\$7,205 49	\$2,831 99	.....	3	19	1892	\$2,217 52	\$946 71
<p><i>Schooner Monmouth.</i></p> <p>(New, December, 1875.)</p> <p>[Tonnage, 71 68-100 tons. Hands, 11, fishing.]</p>										
1876.	10								

Schooner Monmouth.

(New, December, 1975.)

[Tonnage, 71 68-100 tons. Hands, 11, fishing.]

1876.....	10	\$7,205 49	\$8,831 99	.....	.....
1876.....	16	\$7,205 49	\$8,831 99	.....	.....

Schooner Howard Steele.

[60 37-100 tons. Average hands fishing, 10; hands mackereling, 14.]

Years.	Time in cod and halibut fishery.		Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	Time in Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishing.		Number of barrels caught.	Value of catch.	Vessel's share.	American shore mackerel fishery.
	Mos.	Days.			Mos.	Days.				
1872.....	6	1	\$2,800 94	\$1,119 20	3	23	516	\$5,649 70	\$2,586 53	
1873.....	4	29	7,748 88	3,441 69	3	22	491	3,184 39	1,354 50	
1874.....	4	8	4,994 56	2,129 70	3	22	491	3,184 39	1,354 50	
1875.....	8	22	9,185 43	4,062 78						
1876.....	7	21	5,752 05	2,348 16						
Total	31	21	30,482 36	13,101 53	7	15	1,007	8,834 09	3,941 03	

Lost November 25, 1876, on La Have Banks.

Schooner Pharsalia.

[76 96-100 tons. 12 hands codfishing.]

1875.....	5	25	\$4,421 20	\$1,942 77						
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Sailed for Western Banks September 15, 1875, and never returned.

No. 59.

TUESDAY, *October 16, 1877.*

The Conference met.

ELIPHALET W. FRENCH, of Eastport, Me., fish merchant, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescott:

Question. You are a native of Eastport, I believe?—Answer. I am.

Q. What age are you?—A. Forty-one years.

Q. In what business are you engaged?—A. In the wholesale fish business and fitting out.

Q. How long have you been engaged in it?—A. Twenty years.

Q. As in business for yourself, or as clerk, or how?—A. I have been in business for myself nineteen years last February; previous to that I was in a store with my father.

Q. What was your father's business?—A. He followed the same business.

Q. How long did he follow it?—A. Nearly forty years.

Q. So the firm of which you are a member now, and which you represent, and the business in which your father was previously, extend over how many years?—A. Something like sixty years in the same business.

Q. Will you explain to the Commission what the business is?—A. Buying and selling fish and fitting fishermen.

Q. Buying fish whereabouts, as a general rule?—A. From fishermen.

Q. From fishermen, where?—A. At Grand Manan, Deer Island, Campbellello, Indian Island, and Beaver Harbor.

Q. Is it a matter of necessity in your business that you should have a pretty good knowledge of the fishing at those places?—A. Yes.

Q. You make or lose money according to the completeness and precision of your knowledge of that fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the fishery at Grand Manan and the Bay of Fundy generally?—A. Codfish, pollock, hake, haddock, and herring.

Q. Are any of those fisheries entirely off-shore fisheries?—A. Codfish is an off-shore fishery. Hake are taken off shore.

Q. Entirely or partially?—A. Hake are entirely taken off shore now.

Q. Was it once an inshore fishery?—A. Yes; it is only within three or four years they have been taken off shore.

Q. Before that it was inshore?—A. Inshore and out, both.

Q. How about haddock?—A. Haddock is mostly an inshore fishery.

Q. Herring, of course, is an inshore fishery?—A. Partly.

Q. Into what divisions do you mark the herring fishery?—A. There are smoked, pickled, and frozen herring.

Q. With regard to smoked herring, where is the market for smoked herring that come from the Bay of Fundy, Grand Manan, and the islands of the mainland?—A. Boston and New York, principally.

Q. Are they sent to Boston and New York from Eastport, or do many go direct?—A. They send most of them to Eastport. They are brought there in boats, and sent from there in steamers and sailing vessels. At Grand Manan they have three or four large vessels by which they ship them to Boston and New York direct.

Q. Are those American vessels or Grand Manan vessels owned by Grand Manan people?—A. I know one that is chartered is an American vessel, because it is my own vessel. I don't know in regard to others.

Q. Do they ship on account of Americans, or do they charter the vessels?—A. They are chartered by Grand Manan people.

Q. Have you any idea of what is the value of the smoked-herring business at Grand Manan?—A. I should place it at about \$400,000.

Q. Do you know by whom that fishery is conducted?—A. It is conducted by the inhabitants of Grand Manan.

Q. Entirely?—A. Almost entirely. I understand there is a man at Eastport who owns part of a weir over there, or has an interest in some way in weirs there.

Q. But, as a general thing, it is emphatically a native fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. With regard to the frozen herring, is that the same?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you any idea of the value of the frozen-herring fishery of Grand Manan?—A. I think about \$40,000.

Q. Is that exclusively a native fishery, or do Americans go and participate in it?—A. Very few Americans do. Some small vessels at Eastport go over there.

Q. How many?—A. Perhaps half a dozen.

Q. Can you form any idea as to what proportion the value of their catch bears to the \$40,000 you have mentioned?—A. It would be a very small part, because Grand Manan owns perhaps twice as many vessels as the Eastport people, and there are vessels at Campobello, Wilson's Beach, and Deer Island.

Q. As to the pickled-herring fishery, is that a special business, and is it valuable?—A. It is not so valuable as the others.

Q. Is that conducted in the same way?—A. Yes.

Q. Are Americans engaged in catching and smoking herring on our own coast?—A. Yes.

Q. To any large extent?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know what is the value of the Maine coast smoked-herring fishery by American fishermen?—A. No; but from the number of weirs, I should think there are as many herring smoked on the coast of Maine as on the English side.

Q. Do the herring smoked on the American side equal the British herring in quality and bring as much in the market?—A. Yes; there is one particular place at the town of Cutler and another at Manleybridge, farther on the coast of Maine. Manleybridge herring bring a better price than any other herring shipped to Boston and New York. Manleybridge is near Mount Desert.

Q. Now, with regard to the remaining fisheries—cod, hake, and haddock. The cod fishery, you say, is an off-shore fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. Is the hake fishery an American or English fishery?—A. It is an English fishery.

Q. Is it both?—A. It is almost entirely English. Those few vessels I spoke of go over there hake fishing.

Q. What is your estimate of the hake fishery? Do you deal very much in hake?—A. Yes; I deal in them. I should think there might have been 25,000 quintals taken this season.

Q. The large majority of those would be taken by British fishermen and in British waters?—A. Yes. The boats fish near the shore, but the vessels all fish outside.

Q. Is the bulk of the fish taken outside, and is it considered to be an outside fishery?—A. I think it has been for the last two or three years.

Q. With regard to haddock, how is that?—A. It is taken inshore and out, both.

Q. Then with regard to the fisheries of the county of Charlotte, you know pretty much what their extent is, do you not?—A. Yes.

Q. What do you estimate as the value of the whole fisheries of the

county?—A. I should say the fishery at Campobello, Deer Island, and Indian Island would be about equal in value to what it is at Grand Manan. Up the north shore I don't know so much about; it is not to that extent; it may be half what it is at Grand Manan. I should think \$1,000,000 would cover the whole of the fishery.

Q. With your knowledge of that fishery and your dealings with the fishermen, and the necessity of knowing what the catch is, would you say that any appreciable portion is caught by American fishermen?—A. No; I should consider it an English fishery.

Q. Would you consider there was any possibility for the catch made by American fishermen to be so large as to equal that amounting to \$1,000,000 caught by British fishermen?—A. No; by no means.

Q. Is it possible that such a state of things should exist without you being acquainted with it?—A. No.

Q. Do you know Mr. James McLean?—A. I know him by sight.

Q. Do you know where he carries on business?—A. The firm does business at Letite and Lepreau.

Q. I want to call your attention to some of his testimony with regard to his estimates of the fishery of Charlotte County, and ask whether you think it correct, and, if not, how it should be reduced. The following is from Mr. McLean's testimony:

Q. Judging from your practical knowledge of the fishery, being an owner of fishing-vessels and dealing with the men who fish as you do, what do you say, at a low figure, would be the value of the fisheries and the actual worth of the fish caught by British subjects between the points you mention, from Lepreau to Letite? What would be a fair average value from 1871?—A. I should estimate the quantity for Charlotte County and the adjoining islands. We all fish; and it would be difficult to separate the two.

Q. You are acquainted with the catch of the island as well?—A. Yes. I visit Grand Manan Island occasionally, and the adjoining islands often.

Q. What is the catch of the whole?—A. A low estimate for our fishery would be \$1,000,000 for each year.

That is about the estimate you made just now?—A. Yes.

Q. Then there is the following:

Q. For British subjects?—A. Yes.

Q. That is a low estimate?—A. Yes; I think I am under the mark; in fact, I have no doubt of it all.

Q. And it may be a good deal more?—A. Yes.

Q. You have not a shadow of a doubt that it is at least a million?—A. No.

Q. And our American friends take a considerable amount more?—A. They take as many.

Q. They have more men and more vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. And they take at least as much?—A. Yes; fully as much as we do, if not more.

Q. Have you any doubt that they do take more?—A. I believe that they take more.

Q. You have no doubt of it?—A. No.

Q. That would make a million dollars' worth taken by them?—A. They must take a million dollars' worth.

Q. That is the very least calculation?—A. Yes; I put it down as low as possible, to be safe and sure.

Q. They take at least as much as we do?—A. I believe that they take more, and they take as much any way.

Q. The American catch, as well as our own, on which you place an estimate of a million dollars in value, is taken within three miles of the shore?—A. Yes; I am confining myself to within the 3-mile limit.

Are you in a position to say whether that is true or not?—A. I don't think it is true. I think he has made a mistake.

Q. Do you think your business is such that you would know the fact if it was so?—A. Yes.

Q. That there could not be two million dollars' worth caught instead of one million without you knowing it in your business?—A. Yes.

Q. If it is so, that would make a very good business for the merchants in Eastport, if they deal entirely with Grand Manan?—A. Yes; Campobello, Deer Island, and Grand Manan.

Q. What is the condition of things? Is it such as to indicate very large profits to the fishermen?—A. No.

Q. What is the reason?—A. There is not much money in the fishery.

Q. To the Eastport people, you mean?—A. Yes; and I have suffered a loss by it; that is, in the fitting-out part, I mean.

Q. What do you say to this:

Q. Along the coast of Maine, say from Eastport westward, there lives a large population who fish entirely in our waters?—A. Yes. They come from Lubec, Perry, Pembroke, and Eastport, and along by Cutler and westward of Lubec, and still farther away than that.

Q. And from Machias?—A. I think so.

Q. They all come and fish in our waters?—A. Yes.

Q. And not in their own waters?—A. I do not know of any fishing within the three-mile limit in their waters.

Q. Within three miles of their coast there is no fishing of which you are aware?—A. Yes.

Q. And this is a population that lives by fishing alone?—A. From Eastport and along there they follow fishing for a livelihood, beyond question.

Q. So that a large body of American fishermen gain their whole livelihood in our waters?—A. Yes; those that fish there do.

A. That is not so.

Q. State to the Commission what you know of the habits of those people.—A. It speaks of the people being engaged in fishing only. They are engaged in farming mostly; that is really their business, but they carry on both fishing and farming. There are only one or two or three or four vessels owned at Lubec, one or two at Machias, and one at Jonesport, that come down there.

Q. I find this, also, in Mr. McLean's testimony, speaking about St. Andrew's:

Q. It is sometimes called the Inner Bay of Passamaquoddy?—A. I suppose that it is.

Q. Was not that at one time a great herring-ground?—A. It was once a splendid fishing-ground.

Q. Since the negotiation of the Washington Treaty, and since the Americans have fished there, what has become of it?—A. It has been destroyed within the last two years. It is now no good whatever.

Q. How did the Americans destroy it?—A. By bringing too many vessels there, and by setting too many nets. The water is quite rough there at times, the wind blowing heavily in from the northwest. Northwest winds prevail in winter, and three years ago we had a very hard winter.

Do you know anything of the destruction of fish in St. Andrew's Bay?—

A. No.

Q. You know something about the fishing there?—A. Yes; I know there are as many herring taken there as there ever were. A year ago last spring the catch was unusually large.

Q. He says there is no fishing within three miles of the American shore; do you know of any fishing done not only by Americans but by English fishermen on the American shore?—A. The best fishing in St. Andrew's Bay is on the American side, from Dog Island, on Eastport, to Lowerin's Cove, in Perry. There are other places of course, on the American shore. There are herring taken at Cross Island, near Machias, and Libby Island, at the mouth of Machias River.

Q. Do you know any fishing-vessels engaged fishing within the three miles of the American shore?—A. All vessels from the other side fish in St. Andrew's Bay on the American side.

Q. Do you know Walter B. McLaughlin?—A. Only by reputation as keeper of a light-house.

Q. I want to call your attention to his testimony. There is the following:

Q. Now, in the spring are you not visited by the Grand Manan fleet from Gloucester?—A. Yes; they used formerly to come to Grand Manan direct. Generally now they go to Eastport and get the Eastport people to catch bait for them.

Q. When you say "formerly," do you mean after the Treaty of Washington?—A. Yes; they did not come before that much. It is since 1871 that they have come principally. They will come down every spring.

Q. How long do they last?—A. Sometimes a longer and sometimes a shorter time.

Q. How many years after the treaty did it commence?—A. It has lasted down to the present time, for that matter. There has not been so many this last spring as before.

Q. I thought you said there had been a change in the practice?—A. There has not been a change in the practice of getting bait at our places, but in the mode of getting it. They generally come to Eastport and make that their place of departure. The Eastport people are acquainted with our waters almost as well as our own people, and they come across and catch fish and sell to the Gloucester fishermen; that is the majority of the cases now.

Q. I understand that at first they came down themselves and bought?—A. Yes.

Q. And now they come chiefly to Eastport to employ Eastport fishermen, who catch the fish and bring them to them?—A. The big vessels are not fitted out for herring fishing. They take an Eastport vessel in company with them and come over and anchor in our waters. They bring their own fishermen with them and anchor in our waters, and get their bait there. They sometimes come in the fall for bait.

What do you know about that?—A. I know that it is not so. I have seen 40 vessels from Gloucester lying in the harbor of Eastport for bait, and the boats would bring the bait from the other side, and would bait them up.

Q. The boats would come from Grand Manan?—A. From Campobello and Deer Island. When I speak of the other side I mean the British Islands.

Q. There is also the following:

Q. You are well acquainted with the fisheries of Charlotte County. Take the mainland fishing from Letete as far as Lepreau, is that a good fishing-ground?—A. It is considered a good fishing-ground; I am not personally acquainted with it, and can only say from what I have heard; my duties have never carried me there.

Q. But your practical knowledge extends there?—A. Yes.

Q. What would be the value of the mainland fishery, the British fishery alone, taking it from Letete to Lepreaux?—A. My own fishery is, say, \$500,000; Campobello and West Isles must equal mine, and the mainland will certainly be more than half of that, if not equal to it.

Q. Well, then, you put Campobello and West Isles as about equal to Grand Manan?—A. Yes; speaking as I do, not knowing exactly, I should say so.

Q. That would be half a million for those two islands, and half a million for Grand Manan—that makes a million; and you think the mainland is half as much as either of those; that would be a fair estimate for the mainland?—A. Yes; Charlotte County is a very important fishing county. In 1861 I was a census enumerator, and I think the result of the fishery in that county nearly equaled that of all the other fisheries of the province, with the exception of St. John County.

Q. You put half a million as the catch of the British fishermen on the mainland for the year, and, in your judgment, the American catch is the same?—A. All I can judge is by what I hear. They come down in their vessels. I think they have their own way on the north shore, very much more than on Grand Manan; I have a great deal of trouble with them there. But on the north shore I think they have things pretty much as they want. I would say that they probably surpass our own catch.

You don't agree with that estimate?—A. No.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. I want to call your attention to the last paragraph read to you, in which you contradicted the evidence of Mr. McLaughlin. Mr. Trescott read to you the following:

Q. You are well acquainted with the fisheries of Charlotte County; take the mainland from Letete as far as Lepreau, is that a good fishing-ground?—A. I am not personally acquainted with it; I can only say from what I have heard. My duties have never carried me there.

Do you undertake to say that the fishing-ground from Lepreau to Letete is a bad fishing-ground?—A. No.

Q. Then what made you contradict the statement?—A. I contradicted that remark he made in regard to American fishermen having their own way.

Q. The whole passage was read to you and you contradicted it?—A. I referred to the last part that was read.

Q. Did you hear the whole read?—A. Yes.

Q. Why did you not qualify your contradiction?—A. I do so now.

Q. You admit that if I had not called attention to it, your statement would have gone as contradicting Mr. McLaughlin's testimony?—A. I referred to the last part of what was read.

Q. I call your attention to this:

Q. What would be the value of the mainland fishery, the British fishery alone, taking it from Letete to Lepreau?—A. My own fishery is, say \$500,000; Campobello and West Isles must equal mine; and the mainland will certainly be more than half of that, if not equal to it.

You have said that Campobello and the West Islands would equal Grand Manan?—A. Campobello and West Isles would be, I think, about the same as Grand Manan.

Q. That is the statement made here by Mr. McLaughlin, and you contradicted it.—A. I did not refer to that part.

Q. Mr. McLaughlin puts down that Campobello and West Isles would be equal to Grand Manan. Do you contradict that?—A. I admit it to be true, so far as I know.

Q. You said in your answer to Mr. Trescot you did not agree to that. How often have you been at Grand Manan for the purpose of inquiring into the value and extent of the fishery?—A. I have never been there. All I know is from the fish that come from there.

Q. Never having been there, you yet presume to put your opinion against and contradict the statement of Mr. McLaughlin, who has been there and has a practical knowledge of it?—A. I know about it from what I learn from the fishermen. I give my opinion of the value of the fishery.

Q. You put your opinion against the oath of Mr. McLaughlin, who has a practical knowledge of it?—A. Yes, I put my opinion against his opinion.

Q. Although you have never been there and never examined closely into the extent of the fishery?—A. I know the fish that come from there.

Q. Do all the fish that come from there go to Eastport?—A. I think they do.

Q. Will you swear to that?—A. No; because there are a few go to St. John's—a very small quantity.

Q. Will you swear that none are sent direct elsewhere than to St. John's and Eastport?—A. I don't know of any.

Q. Do you mean to say that American vessels which come down to catch fish off the main land take it to Eastport? Do you not know that they take the fish direct to Boston, Newburyport, or other ports on the American coast?—A. I do not know it.

Q. Do you say that they do not?—A. I never heard of vessels going there.

Q. If American vessels have gone there and fished off the main land, you have never heard of it?—A. No.

Q. If American vessels do go and fish there, would they not carry their cargoes elsewhere than to Eastport?—A. I don't think they would.

• I think all the fish would come into Eastport, because all the fishing is done in smaller vessels, from 10 to 20 tons.

Q. If vessels are sent down from Gloucester or Newburyport, or Machias, do you say they would necessarily call at Eastport after taking a cargo in our waters?—A. Machias vessels would, because they sell at Eastport.

Q. Do they always sell there?—A. Yes.

Q. They never sell at Machias?—A. I never knew them do so.

Q. How does that happen?—A. Because Eastport is their market.

Q. Is there no market at Machias?—A. Not to any extent.

Q. Did I understand you to say, in speaking of St. Andrew's Bay, that the best fishing was on the American shore?—A. Yes.

Q. And you further stated that Machias River ran into that bay?—A. No; I said there were herring taken at Cross Island.

Q. Did you not say when speaking of the fishing in St. Andrew's Bay, that the best fishing was on the American shore, and went on to speak of the Machias River running into the bay?—A. No; I will explain the statement. I say the best fishing in St. Andrew's Bay is from Dog Island at Eastport to Lowerin's Cove in Perry, and there are also herring taken at Cross Island, at Machias.

Q. What have Cross Island and Machias to do with St. Andrew's Bay?—A. I was asked in regard to where herring are taken on the American shore.

Q. You say you have never been to the main land, and have not therefore examined the fisheries, and yet you swear you don't know of American vessels going there?—A. I don't swear that. I know of half a dozen vessels owned in Eastport.

Q. Do they go and fish there?—A. Yes.

Q. Off the main land?—A. Yes.

Q. What part of the main land?—A. Off Lepreau; I know they fish in that vicinity. I don't know as much about the fishing there as I do at Deer Island, Grand Manan and Campobello.

Q. Do you know where the fishing places on the main land are?—A. I know they fish off Beaver Harbor, Lepreau and Letite and in that vicinity.

Q. Don't they fish at Back Bay?—A. Yes, they fish there; principally in the winter.

Q. And at Mace's Bay?—A. I have not heard of fish being taken at Mace's Bay.

Q. You don't pretend to know where the fishing places are on the main land?—A. I have some general idea of them.

Q. Have you ever been to St. George?—A. Yes.

Q. How long is it since you were last there?—A. Several years.

Q. Have you been there during the last ten years?—A. I think so.

Q. Have you ever been in the adjoining parish, which borders on the bay, Pennfield?—A. No.

Q. Or the next parish, Lepreau?—A. I have never been to Lepreau.

Q. Have you been along the inner bay of Passamaquoddy, along the shore?—A. No.

Q. You have been to St. Andrew's, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. How long is it since you were last there?—A. A year or two.

Q. St. Andrew's is connected by a steamer with Eastport?—A. Yes.

Q. It is easy of access?—A. Yes.

Q. To St. George or St. Patrick, Pennfield or Lepreau you have never been, and you have been to St. George once, and that was 10 years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. Yet you put your opinion against that of a man who has been on the ground?—A. I make my estimate from vessels from Eastport which I know fish there, from the English fish which comes into Eastport from that way, and from conversations with fishermen in regard to the fishing there.

Q. That is all?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you have those conversations for the express purpose of finding out how many fish were taken along the British coast?—A. No; it was never mentioned.

Q. You never had any object in finding out what the catch was?—A. No; I never inquired.

Q. How often have you visited Grand Manan?—A. I have never been at Grand Manan.

Q. Campobello, which is quite near to Eastport—you have been there, I suppose?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there valuable fishing ground on Campobello shore?—A. They put up a good many smoked herring.

Q. There is good fishing between Eastport and Campobello, within three miles of Campobello shore?—A. Yes.

Q. The fishing within three miles of Campobello shore is better than the fishing on the American coast, is it not?—A. The distance between Eastport and Campobello is only one mile and three-quarters.

Q. The fishing close up to the island is better than on the American coast?—A. It is everywhere in the bay.

Q. Is it not better close to the shores of Campobello than close to the American shores?—A. It is pretty difficult to tell where the line runs there.

Q. Is not the channel much nearer the American shore than to the island of Campobello?—A. The place where they catch most of the fish is between Eastport and Campobello, and is called the Ledge. I think it is about half way between the two.

Q. Is not the channel nearer the American shore than Campobello?—A. There is not any channel there; it is all deep water.

Q. When the tide is out is there not a well-known channel there close to the American shore?—A. No; a vessel can anchor anywhere off Eastport.

Q. Don't you know that the British line runs close to the American shore?—A. No; I don't know where the line does run, or anybody else.

Q. And you don't know the channel close to the American shore?—A. No, I don't know it; I never heard any channel spoken of between Eastport and Campobello.

Q. Are there a large number of weirs round Campobello?—A. A good many.

Q. Are there any on the Eastport side?—A. Yes.

Q. Many?—A. A good many.

Q. At Eastport?—A. Yes.

Q. Are there many between Eastport and Lubec and along the shore?—A. There are weirs at Perry, Lubec, and Cutler.

Q. Which is nearest to Eastport, Perry or Lubec?—A. Perry adjoins Eastport on the mainland. Lubec is about two miles opposite to Eastport by water.

Q. Along that shore, from Eastport to Lubec, are there on the American shore many weirs?—A. I should think there were.

Q. Do you know of your own knowledge that there are?—A. I know there is a large number.

Q. What do they take?—A. Herring.

Q. And other fish?—A. No; there is a place at Treat's Island where there is an immense quantity of herring taken.

Q. Where is that?—A. It is part of Eastport, but it is an island. It is owned by a man named Treat, who is a resident of Eastport, and a great many herring are taken at that island.

Q. Do I understand you to say that along the American shore they can catch as many herring as they want?—A. If they followed it as a business they could.

Q. Why do they not follow it?—A. A good many are engaged in farming. Those living at Eastport, where the weirs are, have large farms there, and do a great deal of farming besides.

Q. Are all the herring sold at Eastport? Is that the market?—A. Yes.

Q. Did I not understand you that when American vessels came down of late years men came over with herring from Grand Manan?—A. It is a different kind to what is taken in weirs. The weir herring are small herring.

Q. They don't use them for bait?—A. No.

Q. Don't you catch large herring on your coast?—A. They do in winter.

Q. They do not take large herring in the weirs?—A. Not to any extent.

Q. Then there are no large herring taken on your coast?—A. Yes; there are.

Q. How many are taken?—A. There are large herring taken in one of the coves at Eastport.

Q. Are they taken to any extent?—A. A good many.

Q. Are they used for bait?—A. They can use them for bait, but they are mostly taken in winter and frozen and brought into Eastport and shipped by steamer.

Q. At what season do the vessels which the fishermen supply with bait come down to Lubec?—A. In the spring.

Q. If there are so many herring on your coast, why do not American fishermen supply the vessels coming down in the spring for bait? According to you the British fishermen go out and supply them with bait, though they have plenty on their own shores. How do you account for it?—A. There are several reasons. One thing is they would rather buy it from fishermen on the other side. The reason is because there are Englishmen from Campobello on board those vessels and they, of course, will patronize their own people. I will give you an illustration if you will allow me. Last March a gentleman from Gloucester, Mr. Babson, came to me to get up a quantity of herring to send to the Swedish market. I had them put in barrels and sent to my place in Eastport. He employed a man named Calder, of Campobello, to buy herring for him. After he got through there were so many small herring found among them that there was a loss on the enterprise, and the small herring had to be sold for smoking. The fishermen from the other side who came and wanted to sell, told him that Calder would not patronize any except his own people at Campobello, and but for them, they could have sold him large herring. I don't know what there is in the statement; I give it as I got it.

Q. Do I understand that on board every vessel there are Englishmen who prevent the vessels from dealing with American fishermen?—A. I don't know that there are altogether. Every season a great many go from the other side up to Gloucester to ship in those vessels. Eastport

vessels on Grand Manan Banks are filled with fishermen from Campobello and Deer Island.

Q. Do I understand you to say that the majority of the crews are British or Americans of the vessels which come down?—A. At Eastport the majority of them are British subjects, fishermen from Campobello and Deer Island.

Q. Those are they who man the vessels?—A. Eastport vessels which go to the Banks.

Q. I am speaking of the vessels which come in the spring for bait?—A. I don't think the majority are.

Q. Though the majority are not English, the minority can control and make them buy of the British and not Americans. How do you account for that?—A. I account for it in this way, that those who are engaged in catching herring at that time are fishermen at Campobello and Deer Island, who come over to Eastport in their boats, and sell their herring to those vessels.

Q. I want to know how that happens, when there are plenty of herring on your own shore. Do you account for it by saying that the British on board control the Americans?—A. To some extent.

Q. It is a curious thing, which you are not able to explain?—A. I don't think any herring are taken at Eastport at the time those vessels come there for bait. I think the herring are taken on the other side altogether.

Q. You have never been to Grand Manan?—A. No.

Q. Do you undertake to say that there is not a large fleet of American vessels fishing in there every year?—A. I should say there is not. I should be likely to know it if there was.

Q. Not for herring alone, but for other fish?—A. Some vessels fish there for codfish.

Q. If such a thing happened you would have heard it?—A. Yes.

Q. You have heard of Mr. McLaughlin?—A. Yes.

Q. He is a respectable man?—A. Yes.

Q. He must have committed deliberate perjury in having stated that he saw American vessels there, you not having heard of any being there?—A. I don't say that.

Q. Do I understand you to say that you don't mean any American vessels come there for the purpose of fishing?—A. I don't say so. I say vessels do come there cod-fishing.

Q. For herring every year?—A. Not to any extent.

Q. You don't believe it?—A. No.

Q. Then if Mr. McLaughlin swore that they did, he was committing deliberate perjury?—A. I have nothing to say to that.

Q. Mr. McLaughlin having sworn what he swore, and you having given the opinion that, in your judgment, those vessels were not there, I ask you if you can escape the conclusion that Mr. McLaughlin was telling what was false?—A. I think Mr. McLaughlin was right when he told somebody in Eastport that he would like to alter the testimony he had given here. I don't say anything as to whether Mr. McLaughlin told the truth or not.

Q. You, a man who has never been at the island, and consequently never saw what the fishing there was, put your opinion against that of a man who has been there and seen it?—A. I do; for I know from vessels which come from there to Eastport.

Q. Do you swear that a large fishing-fleet from Gloucester does not come down there and fish round the island, especially for herring?—A. I don't know that there is, only, as I said, for codfish.

Q. I want to call your attention to a statement made in the Cape Ann Advertiser; I suppose you are aware it is a fisherman's organ?—A. I know it is a paper published in Gloucester, that is all I know of it.

Q. I call your attention to a statement published in the issue of February 23, 1877. It is as follows:

From this humble beginning may be traced the success of the herring business, which has developed into a leading business industry, and employs many of the finest vessels of the fleet. For the first dozen years the business was confined to Newfoundland voyages; but of late years an extensive herring business has grown up with Grand Manan, and a few cargoes are brought annually from Nova Scotia.

Q. What do you say to that?—A. It refers to frozen herring.

Q. It says: "Of late years an extensive business has grown up with Grand Manan"?—A. I say that is true; I don't deny it. The vessels that come from Gloucester in the winter season go to Grand Manan first to buy cargoes of frozen herring.

Q. This article is headed "The herring business of Gloucester," and it says:

This herring industry enables our vessels to prosecute the Bank fisheries in February and March, when immense schools of fish resort thither, and the largest fares are brought in; it furnishes a valuable article of nourishing food for the New York, Boston, and other markets at a low price, and within the last year it has opened a profitable commerce with Sweden, from which the best of results are anticipated.

Another paragraph from the same article reads:

The export trade of the past season, and the improved demand for home consumption, gave an impetus to the various branches of the herring fishery the past season, and some thirty-nine vessels were employed in the Newfoundland herring trade, salt and fresh, while some thirty-six vessels made herring trips to Grand Manan and Nova Scotia on Gloucester account. Most of the fleet have completed their voyages, and besides keeping this market well stocked, eight cargoes from Newfoundland and five from Grand Manan have been forwarded to New York, three Manan fares have been sent to Philadelphia, and three Newfoundland and three New Brunswick cargoes have been marketed in Boston.

Do you believe those statements?—A. That refers entirely to the frozen-herring business, from the fact that it says they send them to New York and Philadelphia, and Gloucester vessels come down to Grand Manan and buy cargoes of herring, take them to Gloucester, and send them to markets at New York or Philadelphia.

Q. What is the practice round Grand Manan as to buying herring?—A. They pay so much per hundred for them.

Q. Do they fish for them themselves?—A. No; they buy them.

Q. You never have been there?—A. No.

Q. You swear positively that they don't catch them?—A. Yes.

Q. Do they employ the fishermen to catch herring for them?—A. The fishermen catch the herring, and they buy them and pay so much per hundred.

Q. They never catch a herring?—A. Not to any extent.

Q. To what extent do they catch them?—A. It is very slight. In fact, I think they have given it up altogether; a few vessels formerly brought down nets. The skippers of those vessels have told me it did not pay to catch the herring, and they would rather buy them. I know one particular friend of mine who did this last winter. Again, the fishermen about Deer Island won't let them catch herring, and cut their nets, saying that the fishing belongs to them.

Q. Although you were never at Grand Manan, you swear positively that the Americans do not fish there?—A. I say they don't to any extent.

Q. That you swear to positively?—A. Yes.

Q. As a matter you are sure of?—A. Yes; as far as I can be sure of anything by conversing with fishermen.

Q. Without any knowledge of your own?—A. That is all the knowledge I have, and that ought to be enough.

Q. I want to call your attention to a statement in the Cape Ann Advertiser of January 26, 1877. Before I do so I wish to ask you if it is well understood there is a herring fleet that comes down there every season?—A. Yes; there are a number of schooners that come down for herring.

Q. Is it called the herring fleet?—A. I don't know whether it is or not. I know they come there to buy herring.

Q. This paper also says:

The number of fishing arrivals reported at this port the past week has been fourteen—ten from the Banks and La Have, and four from Grand Manan. The New Brunswick herring-fleet bring good cargoes, and the supply, being greater than will be needed to bait the fishing fleets, will be marketed in part in other markets.

That shows they go down to get bait?—A. Yes; because it is frozen herring they get for bait. They bait the vessels for going on the Grand Banks.

Q. Is this true? I am reading now from "The Fisheries of Gloucester from 1623 to 1876," published by Procter Bros., of Gloucester, in 1876:

The Newfoundland and New Brunswick herring fisheries, of comparatively recent origin, while not unattended with hardship and danger, became at once an important auxiliary of the Georges and Banks fisheries, and have been pursued unremittingly from the start.

A. I don't know anything about the Newfoundland herring fishery.

Q. Then about New Brunswick?—A. I know they come there every winter.

Q. Do you deny that?—A. It connects Newfoundland and New Brunswick. There may be hardships and dangers attending the Newfoundland fishery. I don't know about that.

Q. There is no hardship, in your estimation, about the Newfoundland fishery?—A. No.

Q. You think the writer would connect New Brunswick with Newfoundland, and say there are hardships when he only meant it was in Newfoundland that hardships were incurred?—A. I don't know what he meant.

Q. He says that in that enterprise there were dangers and hardships?—A. It may be very well for a man sitting in his room to write such an article.

Q. Probably such a man could write this of the fisheries as a man living at Eastport could speak of the fishing at Grand Manan, when he had never been there?—A. No; only he had not been engaged in the fishing business for 20 years, as I have been.

Q. You never did any fishing round Grand Manan and never saw it?—A. But I have bought the fish and had conversations with fishermen.

Q. In the same article as I have read, it says further:

During the present season herring have been shipped hence to Sweden, at a good profit, and it is not impossible that this may prove the initial step toward the resumption of exportation of fish to foreign ports, an important industry of the port in the early days of its fishing enterprise.

Do you agree with that?—A. That is correct; the herring are put up at Eastport.

Q. They are put up at Eastport and sent to Gloucester?—A. Yes

two or three different firms from Gloucester bought herring in Eastport last year. One I packed out, and another party was there buying them packed up in barrels.

Q. Do I understand that you wish the Commissioners to believe that the Gloucester fleet comes down for the purpose of getting herring round Grand Manan, goes down to Eastport and ships herring there?—A. Yes. These parties are from Gloucester.

Q. Does the New Brunswick fishing-fleet, the herring-fleet, take their cargoes into Eastport before they go to Gloucester?—A. They go down on the north side and buy herring and take them to Gloucester.

Q. It comes to this. You come here for the purpose of contradicting Mr. McLaughlin as to what took place on the island of Grand Manan, where you say you never were in your life. Is that true?—A. I did not come here to contradict Mr. McLaughlin.

Q. You have in fact contradicted Mr. McLaughlin?—A. I have told what I know.

Q. You put your opinion as to the facts respecting fishing round Grand Manan—though you have never been there in your life—against the opinion of Mr. McLaughlin, who has resided there all his life, and swears to certain facts. You do the same with regard to the main land, where you have never been, except once to St. George, and that ten years ago?—A. I consider I know as much about the fishing, buying fish at Eastport which comes from there, as Mr. McLaughlin, who keeps a light-house, knows about it.

Q. Are you aware that it is part of Mr. McLaughlin's business to go round to all the fishermen and ascertain exactly what the American catch was?—A. I understand he is fishery-warden there.

Q. Do I understand you to say you have as good a means of information in regard to Grand Manan as Mr. McLaughlin?—A. I think I have.

Q. Do you swear you have as good means of information as Mr. James McLean in regard to the mainland fishery, he living there and doing business there?—A. I think so. He is engaged there in buying fish, and I am engaged at Eastport buying it.

Q. Are you aware that he is engaged in fishing?—A. No; he is a merchant.

Q. Do you swear he does not send out any fishing-vessels and small boats?—A. He may send out some fishing-boats, but the principal part of his business is that of a merchant.

Q. If he swears that he sends out fishing-vessels and boats, do you mean to say the statement is untrue?—A. He may do that.

Q. You undertake to put your opinion against his?—A. Yes.

Q. Though you never have been there at all?—A. Yes.

Q. Mr. McLaughlin has said this:

Q. Now about how many American vessels fish on the coast during the season?—A. It would be hard to tell that; it has never been my duty to count them.

Q. They come in large numbers, and they generally outnumber ours?—A. Yes; our people at Grand Manan fish but little in vessels.

You contradict that?—A. I do.

Q. You say they fish a great deal in vessels and very little in boats?—A. I say very few American vessels come there to fish.

Q. Do you contradict the statement that Grand Manan people fish very little in vessels?—A. They have a dozen or twenty vessels over there.

Q. Do you contradict the statement or do you not?—A. I don't know what he calls small or large.

Q. You swear that the Grand Manan people fish round their own coast?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you say that the American vessels do not outnumber the Grand Manan vessels?—A. I say they do not.

Q. Though you had not been there at all?—A. I have not been there, but I know.

Q. You swear positively that the statement is not true?—A. Yes.

Q. Mr. McLaughlin also said:

Q. Do these vessels come in fishing within three miles?—A. At a certain time of the year; in winter it is entirely within; the fall and winter fishing is entirely within.

Do you contradict that?—A. The most of those vessels fish on Grand Manan Banks.

Q. That is not the question. [Extract re-read.] What do you say to that?—A. I say that in winter perhaps half a dozen vessels owned in Eastport may go over to Grand Manan fishing. They all fish inside when the herring are inside; within the last two or three or four years the herring have been outside, and they fished outside for them.

Q. So the statement is not true that the fall and winter fishing for herring is entirely inside?—A. It is not entirely inside.

Q. Is the bulk of it outside?—A. No; I don't know that the bulk is.

Q. You say that the fall and winter fishing is entirely outside?—A. Not entirely; I say to a great extent.

Q. The larger portion is outside?—A. The boat fishermen of Grand Manan and the islands of New Brunswick are complaining that the nets each year are being set further off shore, and within the last year or two or two or three years they have been so greedy, they say, that they have put their nets four or five miles out.

Q. Tell me a single man who has told you that the fishing in the fall and winter fishery is not within three miles of the shore?—A. I cannot give you the name of a Grand Manan man, but I can give you the name of a man who has been continually fishing there and in that vicinity for twenty years. It is not only at Grand Manan but at other places they are complaining.

Q. Can you give me the name of any Grand Manan man who told you that?—A. It was not a Grand Manan man who told me.

Q. It comes to this: those men who are on the spot and ought to be able to know all about the fishing, you contradict, though you have not been on the spot?—A. I say my means of information are as good as theirs. I have been employed in business twenty years, and I have been accustomed to converse with fishermen.

Q. Do you seriously swear before the Commission that your opinion with reference to the fisheries prosecuted on the main land and at Grand Manan Island is as good as the opinion of those who have lived there all their lifetime?—A. I consider that my opinion and my means of information are as good as theirs.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. In giving your testimony before the Commissioners, you do not mean to give it as a practical fisherman?—A. No; not at all.

Q. You give it as a man representing a house which has been in the business for 60 years. You give your testimony, as I understand it, as a cotton-buyer would give his experience of dealing in cotton. He knows the brands, the qualities, and the places from which the cotton comes; and his views would be based on that sort of information. Now, with regard to this question about the fishery, you have expressed the opinion that in winter it is not exclusively an inshore fishery, and Mr.

Thomson has submitted the opinion of Mr. McLaughlin as opposed to this view; and I want to read the opinion of an overseer, Mr. Cunningham, of the Inner Bay, and see whether it agrees with yours. It is as follows:

The winter herring fishery, I am sorry to say, shows a decrease from the yield of last year. This, I believe, is owing to the large quantities of nets—in fact miles of them—being set by United States fishermen all the way from Grand Manan to Lepreauux, and far out in the bay by the Wolves, sunk from 20 to 25 fathoms, which kept the fish from coming into the bay.

As they are fishing far off shore, a week at a time, this destructive practice can be followed with impunity and without fear of detection.

A. That is correct; that is what the fishermen are complaining of.

Q. With regard to what is called the Gloucester herring fleet, to which reference has been made here once or twice—are you aware or not whether this fleet takes out licenses to touch and trade when they come to buy herring at Newfoundland, or at Grand Manan, in New Brunswick?—A. I do not know anything about that matter.

No. 60.

WILLIAM DAVIS, master mariner and fisherman, of Gloucester, Mass., was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You are seventy-one years of age?—Answer. Yes.

Q. When did you first go fishing for mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. In 1838.

Q. And when were you last there?—A. In 1876.

Q. How many years were you there fishing in the interval?—A. I could not tell exactly; but I was there for a good many years.

Q. You have a list of them?—A. Yes.

Q. In what schooner were you there last year?—A. The B. D. Haskins.

Q. How long were you there in her?—A. About three months.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you then catch?—A. One hundred.

Q. What was your share in money?—A. Twenty-six dollars.

Q. For three months' work?—A. Yes.

Q. You were also there in 1872?—A. Yes.

Q. And you were there during a good many years between 1855 and 1867?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you state to the Commission where you used to fish during those years, and where you caught your fish? I want you particularly to mention the places within the three miles of the shore where you used to fish or try to fish?—A. I cannot name a great many places within three miles of the shore.

Q. Where did you use to go to fish in the bay?—A. The first year I was there we caught what we did get, and that was not a great many, on Banks Bradley and Orphan.

Q. What were your principal fishing-grounds?—A. These were Banks Bradley and Orphan, and the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Where did you ever fish inshore in the bay within the three-mile limit?—A. I so fished some little at Margaree, although I never was fortunate enough to catch any mackerel there save very few.

Q. How near the main-land and how near the island did you fish at

Margaree?—A. We fished some pretty near the island when we did fish there.

Q. Did you ever fish in the Bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes, some.

Q. When you did so, how far from the shore were you in the habit of fishing?—A. Well, I have fished there 5 and 6 and 10 miles off shore, but I do not think that I ever caught any mackerel there within the three-mile limit. We were generally pretty shy of the bend of the island.

Q. Why?—A. On account of it being a rather bad place for getting caught in with an on-shore wind. It is a rather dangerous place.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Did you ever fish much on the American coast?—A. Yes, in my young days.

Q. But of late years, and since 1855, you preferred to come down to the bay to fish?—A. No; not always.

Q. But generally was not this the case?—A. Yes, I did prefer coming to the bay to fish with the hook and line.

Q. Did you ever try in the Bay of Chaleurs?—A. Yes. I was in there once.

Q. What was the average of the catches which you made since you came to the Bay of St. Lawrence to fish?—A. I have not figured them up, but these catches were not very large. I was not very lucky.

Q. You have been rather unfortunate on your fishing trips?—A. Yes.

Q. And you never fished within 3 miles of land in the bay?—A. I would not say that.

Q. You never caught any there to speak of?—A. Yes. I do not say that I did not catch anything within the three-mile limit, but I got very few there.

Q. You fought shy of the Bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. Well, that is so.

No. 61.

WILLIAM O. COOK, fisherman, of Gloucester, Mass., was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. How old are you?—Answer. 48.

Q. When did you first fish for mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. In 1849, I think.

Q. During how many years were you fishing in the gulf?—A. 7.

Q. Which years were those?—A. They are included from 1849 to 1861, I think.

Q. What was the course you usually took when fishing for mackerel in the bay during this period?—A. We usually first fished on Banks Orphan and Bradley, and afterwards at the Magdalen Islands; from thence we went and fished half-way across between the Magdalen Islands and the Cape Breton shore; this used to be our fishing-ground when I first went to the bay.

Q. How long did you stay there?—A. We used to cruise around there along in October.

Q. And where did you go in October?—A. We then cruised on the Cape Breton shore, keeping broad off from it.

Q. Did you fish during any part of the autumn off the Bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. O, yes, we have fished off there, but nowhere within the three-mile limit.

Q. Did you usually fish there?—A. No.

Q. You say that in the autumn you usually went to the Cape Breton shore?—A. Yes.

Q. What was your harbor there?—A. Port Hood.

Q. When you made Port Hood your harbor, how long did you fish in the vicinity?—A. Sometimes a fortnight and sometimes three weeks.

Q. When did you usually leave the Magdalen Islands to go over in the vicinity of Port Hood?—A. We usually left there about the 1st or the middle of October.

Q. How near the main-land and how near Margaree Island were you in the habit of fishing when you were in the vicinity of Port Hood?—A. I think that sometimes we fished near Margaree Island, but when the cutters used to be there we used to fish broad off.

Q. What is the greatest number of mackerel that you ever caught within 3 miles of the shore, either of the island or main-land, at Margaree?—A. As near as I can recollect, this was in 1856, when we caught 15 wash barrels about half-way between Mabou and Margaree Islands.

Q. Were you in the gulf when the cutters were there?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember any conversation taking place with the captain of a cutter as to where you might fish?—A. He told us that we could fish three miles from the land.

Q. In what depth of water?—A. Twelve fathoms.

Q. What did he tell you about fishing in 12 fathoms of water?—A. He told us to stand off in 12 fathoms of water, and that we would then be clear of the land.

Q. Where was this?—A. Off New London Head.

Q. What was the name of this captain?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Do you remember the year when this took place?—A. It was either in 1851 or 1852—I forget which.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. I suppose that when you would be in 12 fathoms of water off there, you would be about three miles from land?—A. I could not tell you that. I thought by the looks of it, this was pretty near in.

Q. And he told you to go off in 12 fathoms of water. I understood you to say that at Cape Breton you used to make Port Hood your harbor?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you stay there every night?—A. No.

Q. How often did you go in there?—A. When it was stormy we sometimes went in there, and sometimes we anchored off Margaree Island.

Q. In the month of October, you did not fish near the Magdalen Islands at all?—A. O, I have been there late in October.

Q. Was this the case as a rule?—A. I do not know about a rule, but I have fished there in October.

Q. You stated in answer to Mr. Foster that when October came you cruised around the Cape Breton shore?—A. Well, that was during part of October—not the 1st of October. During part of the month we did so.

Q. When, as a rule, did you leave the Magdalen Islands to go to the Cape Breton shore?—A. I have staid around there until the 10th and the 15th of October.

Q. That was the extreme limit of your stay there?—A. I could not say for certain, but that is the case as near as I can remember.

Q. When did you generally leave the Magdalen Islands and go towards the Cape Breton shore?—A. I think about the 10th or the 15th of October.

Q. Do you state this to be the general time when you left there?—A. Yes; we always were around there about the 10th, and sometimes the 5th and the 15th or the 20th of October.

Q. You left there from the 5th to the 20th of October?—A. Yes.

Q. And the remainder of the season you spent off the Cape Breton shore?—A. We did not spend the whole time there; we might start off and go somewhere else.

Q. Does the weather become blowy about the Magdalen Islands about that period?—A. Some years that is the case, and some years it is not.

Q. I suppose that during the years you were on our coast during the Reciprocity Treaty you fished inshore and off shore and everywhere?—

A. There was nothing to stop us doing so, but we could not catch any fish inshore. There was nothing to catch inshore.

Q. Did you then take particular notice whether you caught your fish in or off shore?—A. I think we did.

Q. Why?—A. I do not know, but we talked the matter over among ourselves, as to how and where we caught our mackerel.

Q. Did you catch many mackerel near Margaree?—A. No; I do not think that we did.

Q. Do you mean to tell the Commission that the mackerel caught off Margaree are not caught within three miles of the island or within three miles of the shore?—A. I have caught mackerel inside of the three-mile limit off Margaree Island.

Q. When you had the right to fish in there, did you not go within the three-mile limit?—A. Yes; I say we did so.

Q. Was it not your habit and custom to fish within three miles of the shore during the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. No. We used to fish off shore.

Q. What, then, did you mean by telling Mr. Foster that you fished near Margaree, and that when the cutters were there you fished broad off?—A. And when the cutters were not there I fished inshore?

Q. That would be the inference?—A. I said that when the cutters were there, I fished broad offshore.

Q. I presume from this that when the cutters were not there, you fished inside the three-mile limit?—A. I do not know about that.

Q. Is that correct?—A. We always used to fish offshore, and inshore too.

Q. Did you take out licenses?—A. We did not.

Q. Were you in the bay during the license years?—A. Yes.

Q. During what years were you there? You said that you fished in the bay from 1849 to 1861—then you were not there during the license years?—A. No.

Q. What were your average catches in the bay?—A. 150 and 250 barrels; and some years 300 barrels; and one year our catch was 600 barrels; all of which we caught on Banks Bradley and Orphan.

Q. When was this?—A. In 1860.

Q. You do not know anything about fishing in the bay since 1861?—A. No.

Q. Or whether the fish have of late years been taken in their old haunts or not?—A. No.

Q. What was the size of the vessel in which you took that large catch?—A. 118 tons.

Q. Did you ever fish about Seven Islands?—A. No.

Q. And you never fished much about Prince Edward Island?—A. No, not a great deal; and I never fished any to the north of Banks Orphan and Bradley.

Q. Did you fish there outside of four or five miles from the shore?—A. We used to fish there so as just to see New London Head; and we fished from there to North Cape.

Q. And that would be in 12 fathoms of water?—A. We would be pretty near in when in 12 fathoms of water.

Q. You did fish there off shore?—A. Yes; we did.

Q. But were you accustomed to fish there? Was it one of the fishing grounds or haunts which you frequented?—A. No; we used to go to the Magdalen Islands to get big mackerel.

Q. And after they were done, and if you were not successful there, you went to these other places?—A. We used to go to Banks Bradley and Orphan, and to Bird Rocks.

Q. When you were not successful there do you mean to say that you did not try off Prince Edward Island?—A. We used to try broad off shore there—in sight of land.

Q. I am not speaking of the limits; but did you not try off Prince Edward Island every year?—A. We fished there broad offshore.

Q. Never mind that; but every year you fished there?—A. I say we used to fish there so that we could see the land; we fished up and down broad off the land; we would be about 25 or 26 miles off.

Q. Did you do so every year?—A. No; we did not. In 1860 we fished altogether off the Magdalen Islands and off Bird Rocks.

Q. That was for one year?—A. Yes; and in 1856 also we fished there altogether.

Q. With the exception of these two years, you fished every year off Prince Edward Island?—A. Well, we used to fish there broad offshore so as to see land; we did not like to go in.

Q. What then induced you to have a conversation with the captain of a cutter respecting the distance off shore, where and in what number of fathoms you should fish?—A. We did so because we wanted to find that out so as to satisfy ourselves.

Q. You never fished off there save at a distance of 20 or 21 miles from land what earthly necessity could there be for making such an inquiry at all?—A. We had nothing to go by so as to tell what distance we were from land.

Q. Do you mean to tell the Commission that although you fished 21 miles off shore there was any necessity to inquire of a captain of a cutter in how many fathoms of water you should fish, so as not to fish within three miles of the shore?—A. If we fished in toward the limits, we wanted to know when we would be safe.

Q. Why did you want to know the exact depth of water in which to fish?—A. We saw the captain of the cutter when we were going in, and some wanted to heave to and fish, while others urged that we should ask him about it.

Q. And you never caught any fish inshore?—A. I did not say that we did.

Q. Why did you wish to know the exact limit?—A. I never caught any fish inside the limit there; but I have done so on the Cape Breton shore.

Q. Why did you want to know the exact distance at which you should fish off New London Head?—A. We wanted to satisfy our minds and know where the limit was.

No. 62.

EDWARD HILL, fisherman, of Gloucester, Mass., was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. How old are you?—Answer. I am 56.

Q. When did you first fish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. In 1850.

Q. During how many years altogether have you fished for mackerel in the gulf?—A. 14.

Q. When did you last fish there?—A. In 1869.

Q. What were your principal fishing grounds when fishing for mackerel in the gulf?—A. These were about the Magdalen Islands, and between them and Cape Breton, and on Banks Bradley and Orphan.

Q. Did you ever fish off the bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. No; near North Cape and about 10 miles off was the closest in that I have been off the island; but we never tried there.

Q. Where have you fished the nearest to the shore in the gulf?—A. Off Margaree.

Q. When did you go there usually?—A. In October.

Q. Were you in the gulf in October, 1850?—A. Yes.

Q. In what schooner?—A. The B. H. Collis.

Q. Who was the captain?—A. Llewellyn Reed.

Q. Did you come in contact with a cutter commanded by Captain Darby?—A. We did while we were in Port Hood.

Q. I want you to relate that incident exactly as it occurred.—A. When we first got in the bay, on the first trip we went, it was in October; about the 7th of October we went from Port Hood down to Margaree, and there was a man who came on board from another vessel, and says he, "There is a Rockport vessel which has been taken by Captain Darby."

Q. Come right down to what was done by Captain Darby.—A. We caught about 25 barrels there, and then we got scared and went off shore. When we got to Port Hood we had a good deck of mackerel. We had them all salted on deck. Captain Darby came on board, and says he, "You have a fine lot of fish; I want to see your papers." He took them on board the cutter, and said to the captain, "Come on board in about an hour's time; we will talk it over." The next thing, our captain came on board, and says he, "I have compromised with him by giving him 20 barrels of mackerel, and," says he, "a little pinkey will come alongside for them." We thought that this was in charge of the captain's brother, but I have heard since that this was not the case. We took the fish off our deck, and struck them down into his hold, and off he went; and he gave us permission to strike the mackerel down.

Q. What do you mean by striking them down?—A. Heading them up and stowing them in the hold.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. That was in 1850 or 1851?—A. It was in 1850.

Q. You had been fishing in Margaree Harbor?—A. We had been fishing off Mabou.

Q. You had been fishing within three miles of the land?—A. We then caught 25 barrels there.

Q. Within three miles of land?—A. I do not know about that; the land is very high at Mabou, and it is hard to tell the distance exactly. No cutter was there, but only this little boat, which informed Captain Darby of it.

Q. Will you now undertake to swear that you did not catch those 25 barrels within three miles of the shore?—A. Well, I am not certain about it; the distance off shore might have been three or four miles.

Q. Will you positively swear that you did not take them within three miles of land?—A. No.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel had you then on hand?—A. 140.

Q. Where had you caught the rest?—A. Broad offshore, about 20 miles off; between that point and Entry Island, of the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Then you got frightened and ran off to Port Hood?—A. We got our decks full and it breezed up and we had to run to Port Hood for a harbor.

Q. Where were these 25 barrels lying?—A. On the deck along with the rest.

Q. When you catch mackerel, do you not dress them and put them at once into barrels?—A. No, not until we get all we can into the barrels and until they are fairly struck. We leave them for 24 hours generally and then head them up and strike them down.

Q. What do you call fairly struck?—A. Salted so that they will not shrink.

Q. As soon as you catch them you salt them?—A. As soon as we get them we let them soak in water for perhaps two or three hours, if we have good weather.

Q. You then open them?—A. We then dress them.

Q. How was it with these 25 barrels?—A. They were on deck along with the rest.

Q. Were these fish lying in water on deck?—A. They were all salted when we reached Port Hood.

Q. And they were in barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. Were they headed up?—A. No.

Q. And you saw Captain Darby after you came to Port Hood?—A. Yes.

Q. You were then in the harbor?—A. Yes.

Q. Was it foul weather when he came on board and took your papers?—A. He came on board and got the papers from the skipper, and he then went back to his cutter and told the captain to come in about an hour's time, and he did so.

Q. Who was your captain?—A. Llewellyn Reed.

Q. Where is he now?—A. He is in Gloucester, working as a teamster.

Q. Your captain went on board of the cutter?—A. Yes; and he stopped there, I suppose, about half an hour, when he came back. "Well," says he, "I have got the papers, and we have permission to head them up, and stow them down"; and says he, "I have got to give him 20 barrels of mackerel to compromise for the papers."

Q. Then I understood you to say that Captain Darby came down to your vessel, took away the papers, told the captain to come on board of the cutter, and about half an hour after he went, your captain came back, and said he had compromised with Captain Darby, of the cutter, by giving him 20 barrels of mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. What kind of mackerel were they?—A. Number ones, and good ones—very good ones.

Q. Were these taken on board of the cutter?—A. They were put on board of the small pinkey; he had a little spy there, and he spied us out.

Q. Was the pinkey the spy?—A. Yes.

Q. How much did this pinkey get?—A. I could not tell you anything about how they settled her hash.

Q. What became of the fish?—A. They were put on board of the pinkey. Other vessels had to give him some. The Reindeer, of Newburyport—I recollect it the same as if it had happened but yesterday—took 2 barrels alongside the cutter, but Captain Darby was somewhere on shore, or on board of some other vessel, at the time; they asked if Captain Darby was on board, and the answer was, "No"; then said the mate, "What have you got?" "We have 2 barrels of mackerel here to

give us permission to stow our mackerel down." "Well," says the mate, "this is tall"; and they took on board the mackerel.

Q. As one of the crew, you were entitled to your share?—A. I lost my share of that catch. We did not know whose mackerel were taken. We do not put our private mark on them until they are headed up.

Q. How did you tell them?—A. We had them separated. I told the skipper not to mix them all up, but to take part of each man's catch.

Q. How could you tell whose catch it was?—A. We have them all separated, and a space left between.

Q. Then you knew what barrels belonged to each of the crew?—A. No; because he mixed them all up—he was so agitated and scared.

Q. That was before the cutter got hold of them at all?—A. We had them all right before the cutter got hold of them.

Q. Were they all headed up?—A. No; but they were in barrels, the fish being piled up, and heaping over to a considerable extent, when Captain Darby came on board.

Q. You mean that the barrels were full?—A. Yes; and heaped up.

Q. That was all done when you were running from Margaree to Port Hood?—A. No; we proceeded to salt them in Port Hood. We had them all in salt barrels; we were all night dressing them; and by the time we got to Port Hood we had them all split, gutted, and in water; we then commenced to salt them; and when we had all but 2 barrels salted we saw the cutter coming.

Q. To whom did these three barrels belong?—A. I could not tell.

Q. Had they been kept separate?—A. We had them all salted but those.

Q. Do you know to whom these 2 barrels belonged?—A. No; I could not tell exactly.

Q. Did you know at the time?—A. No.

Q. Then the fish were all mixed up at that time?—A. We do not look out for each other's mackerel, but for our own; and I looked out for mine.

Q. Had any salt been put in these barrels at the time?—A. All my fish were then under salt.

Q. Were they in barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. You knew your own barrels?—A. Yes—if they have not been disturbed; I knew them as they were when I put them up, before they were disturbed.

Q. How could they be disturbed when once in the barrels?—A. The barrels were shifted round. The skipper got excited.

Q. What were they shifted round for? Were they not shifted round because the officer of the cutter came on board?—A. After the skipper came from the cutter he took anything and everything, he was so excited.

Q. You mean that he slung the barrels about?—A. He took them as they came and headed them up himself; that is, what Captain Darby got—the rest were not headed up.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel had you on board besides those which you gave to Captain Darby?—A. We had 140 on deck and in the hold before we gave him any.

Q. If you had really been fishing within 3 miles of the shore, and you cannot swear that you were not, he let you off pretty easily, instead taking your whole cargo and your vessel besides?—A. He took just what we caught inshore.

Q. That was getting off pretty easily?—A. That was the first year I was in the bay.

Q. You do not know what took place between your captain and Captain Darby?—A. No; I do not.

Q. You do not know whether your captain told him fairly enough that he had caught 20 barrels within the limits?—A. No; I could not say as to that.

Q. As you say, he just took the fish which you had caught within the limits. Now I will ask you fairly if that was not letting you off a great deal easier than you deserved, considering the fact that you had forfeited the vessel and all that was in it?—A. I do not know about that; it was kind of hard.

Q. Would it not have been kind of harder if the vessel and all the rest of the cargo had been taken?—A. O, yes; of course.

Q. Now, were you not very glad to get off as you did; that spy, the pinkey, was too much for you?—A. I told them that I would fight for my mackerel before I would give them up.

Q. That is the only experience you have had with the cutters?—A. Yes.

Q. I think that Captain Darby let you off wonderfully easy in only taking the fish which you had no business to catch, such as were British subjects. During all these fourteen years it seems that you never got nearer than within 10 miles of Prince Edward Island?—A. O, yes; I have been there myself within five and six miles of the shore.

Q. I thought that you never got nearer than within 10 miles of it?—A. I took out a license once.

Q. When was this?—A. In 1866; but it did not pay. There were no mackerel inshore.

Q. Had you fished before 1866 within the limits?—A. Well, I might have fished within four or five miles or so of the land; perhaps I might have done so, but I could not say. I caught them wherever I could get them. I was, however, rather skittish about going in there, because I owned the best part of the vessel myself, and I would not run any risks.

Q. But you did so sometimes?—A. I thought I was outside then.

Q. Do I understand you to say that you never meant to get in within the three-mile limit at any time?—A. Not when I owned the vessel myself; only the year when I took out the license, I fished wherever I had a mind to.

Q. You were afraid of the cutters?—A. Yes; if I had lost my vessel, I had lost my all.

Q. And you would not risk it?—A. No.

Q. During those years when you kept outside of the three-mile limit, did you get pretty good fares?—A. Yes.

Q. Very good ones?—A. Yes; very good indeed.

Q. How many barrels would your vessel take?—A. One would only take 267 barrels.

Q. In all these trips that you made, did you get full fares?—A. Not all; in 1869 and in 1867 I did not get full fares.

Q. Before 1866, did you ever fish inshore?—A. No; but I caught 295 barrels just in sight of Entry Island. I got my whole trip off there. I was never inshore at all during that trip.

Q. If in previous trips you had managed to get full trips off shore, what induced you in 1866 to pay for a license?—A. I wanted the chance of fishing inshore or offshore, as I might wish.

Q. What was your object in paying out money for a license, if previously you had got full fares outside?—A. Sometimes the fishing at Margaree fails, and sometimes there is a school of mackerel there, or so I had been told, for I never saw them there myself. I daresn't go in.

Q. The fact of the matter is, that the mackerel are sometimes, according to your idea, out in the bay, and sometimes they school inshore; is it not then a privilege to be able to follow them inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. And the people who have that privilege are better off than those who have it not; the former have a better chance of securing fares?—A. Well, I do not know about that. I could not say that, because I found the mackerel more plentiful offshore than inshore.

Q. How much did you pay for the license?—A. 50 cents a ton.

Q. What was the tonnage of your vessel?—A. 49.

Q. Why did you pay \$24.50 for a license, having no object for doing so?—A. I did it so that I could fish where I had a mind to, and so that if I found them inshore I could catch them there.

Q. And always before that you had found plenty of mackerel in the body of the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. You never previously fished within the limits at all?—A. Yes; I did so in 1851.

Q. Did you fish inshore in 1851?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you get good fares that year?—A. We caught, perhaps, 40 or 50 barrels inshore towards the last of our fishing.

Q. When were you last in the bay?—A. In 1869.

Q. I suppose that you have heard that the mackerel have kept inshore much more of late years than was formerly the case?—A. No; I do not know anything about it, because the vessels have not been doing anything. All the vessels say that they have not been doing anything at all.

Q. Have you heard that the mackerel have kept inshore of late years more than they did previously?—A. No; I have not.

Q. Then in all those voyages you never went inshore to fish, except in 1851 and in 1866, when you took out a license?—A. No; not inside the limits.

Q. You kept off shore all the time?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you get full fares all the time?—A. I did not get full fares in 1869 and 1867.

Q. And yet you did not try inshore at all?—A. No; because the vessels which went inshore did not get anything.

Q. And you would not try inshore?—A. I would not run the risk.

Q. Did you ever fish in the Bay of Chaleurs?—A. No; never.

Q. Have you never heard that good fishing was to be had on the northern shore of Prince Edward Island?—A. No.

Q. You never have?—A. No.

Q. Not from any one?—A. No. I went round the island once.

Q. You have never heard from anybody that there is good fishing along the northern shore of Prince Edward Island, within the three-mile limit?—A. No.

Q. Well, then, in your opinion the privilege of fishing within three miles of the shore along the British coasts is of no value at all to American fishermen?—A. It is not a great deal of value to them, I should think.

Q. Is it of any value?—A. I suppose it is some at times. I suppose there are times when the vessels themselves would benefit by it.

Q. Was it so in 1854 and before 1854? You recollect when the Reciprocity Treaty was entered into?—A. Yes.

Q. Was it a privilege then?—A. I was not in the bay then.

Q. You were there in 1850 and 1851?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you there in 1852 and 1853?—A. No.

Q. When were you next in the bay?—A. In 1855, I believe.

Q. Did you fish in the bay at all during the Reciprocity Treaty, from 1854 to 1866?—A. Yes, I did so in 1858.

Q. Did you fish inshore then?—A. We tried inshore and got five barrels of mackerel in August, off Cape George, with a seine.

Q. Where is Cape George?—A. It is before you get to Pictou.

Q. Did you not fish along the shore of Prince Edward Island last year?—A. No.

Q. Or off Margaree?—A. No.

Q. Did you get a full fare then?—A. No, nor half a fare.

Q. You then knew that you had a right to go inshore and fish?—A. No, I did not know anything about it, nor did the captain.

Q. I understand you to say that you went there in 1858 and did not know that you had a right to go and fish within three miles of the shore?—A. I did not.

Q. You did not know that the Reciprocity Treaty was in force and that it gave you a right to fish where you pleased?—A. No; I was a hand then.

Q. Did you understand from the captain that the reason he kept off shore was because he was afraid of the cutters?—A. No; he was not afraid of the cutters.

Q. Why did you not go inshore?—A. If he saw mackerel in or off shore he would have seined them.

Q. You did not get a full fare?—A. No.

Q. When did you enter the bay?—A. About the last of July.

Q. And when did you go out?—A. The last of October.

Q. You only made one trip?—A. Yes.

Q. Where were you fishing all that time?—A. Broad off shore and on Bank Bradley.

Q. Broad off shore?—A. Between the Magdalen Islands and Cape Breton.

Q. Were you fishing near East Point, Prince Edward Island?—A. No, we did not go near East Point, but we were off North Cape once.

Q. You were not broad off East Point at all?—A. No; but the vessel was broad off between the Magdalen Islands and Cape Breton.

Q. When was this?—A. In 1858.

Q. And yet you did not know that you had then a right to go inshore to fish?—A. I did not mind anything about it.

Q. Why did you not suggest it to the captain since you were interested in getting a full fare?—A. I had nothing at all to say in the matter.

Q. You were a sharesman?—A. Yes.

Q. Why, then, did you not suggest to the captain to go and fish inshore off Prince Edward Island?—A. He might have told me to mind my own business.

Q. But this was your business?—A. If a man, while I was skipper, said anything like that to me, I would tell him to mind his own business, and that I would attend to my own.

Q. Is it not the business of a sharesman to do so?—A. No; they are on what we call half lines.

Q. Then, in 1858, although you had the right to fish inshore, you absolutely kept out in the middle of the bay, only got half a fare, and staid there from July to October?—A. We tried inshore at Cape George, and we thought our luck would be the same at other places.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Did you ever try seining in the gulf?—A. Yes; in 1858, 1859, and 1860, in one vessel.

Q. With what success?—A. Very little indeed.

Q. Those were the years when you got these poor fares?—A. Yes; we each made about \$75 the whole summer.

Q. What sort of seines did you use?—A. The purse-seine.

Q. Did you do so as early as 1858?—A. Yes; we had them on our shore.

Q. You were at Seven Islands?—A. Yes, with purse-seines, but got nothing. We stopped a good while there and we thus threw a great deal of our time away.

Q. You thus seined in 1858, 1859, and 1860?—A. Yes; we were at Seven Islands in 1858.

Q. What was the name of your schooner and the name of the captain?—A. The former was named the Potomac, and the latter, Nehemiah Adams.

Q. That was quite early for purse-seines?—A. We had purse seines for pogies and mackerel years before that at home; that is the way in which we catch pogies altogether on our shore. I have seen vessels belonging to this place at Seven Islands, which stopped until fall and came away without a barrel.

No. 63.

JOHN CONLEY, Jr., fisherman, of Rockport, Mass., was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. What is your age?—Answer. It is 43.

Q. You have lived in Gloucester nearly all your life?—A. Yes; with the exception of 10 years, during which I have lived in Rockport.

Q. Is this place in a different customs district?—A. No; we have a deputy collector at Rockport, but we have to go to Gloucester to get our papers.

Q. When did you first fish in the Bay of St. Lawrence?—A. In 1854.

Q. What was the name of the vessel in which you were that year?—A. The C. C. Davis.

Q. You made one trip that year?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you catch?—A. 175.

Q. Were they caught off or in shore?—A. They were taken offshore.

Q. All of them?—A. All with the exception of a few barrels, perhaps five, which were caught inshore.

Q. In what vessel were you in 1855?—A. The Racer. We made one trip.

Q. How many barrels did you catch?—A. 250.

Q. Where did you first fish?—A. On Bank Bradley.

Q. And then?—A. We next went down to the Magdalen Islands.

Q. How much of these 250 barrels did you catch at the Magdalen Islands?—A. We got almost the whole of them there.

Q. Where did you catch the rest?—A. Around East Point and scattered along the shore.

Q. In 1855 you had the right to fish where you liked?—A. Yes.

Q. And you knew that?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you attempt inshore fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. And you think that you gave it a fair trial?—A. Yes.

Q. What portion of your entire cargo did you catch inside of three miles of the shore that year?—A. Perhaps 15 barrels out of the 250.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1866?—A. Yes; in the Belvidere.

Q. How many barrels did you catch?—A. 200.

Q. What portion of these were caught inside the three-mile limit?—A. 7 or 8 barrels; we fished on Bank Bradley and along the Escuminac shore, off the west coast.

Q. Were you in the bay or on our shore in 1857?—A. I was then on our shore.

Q. What were you doing?—A. Seining.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. About 500.

Q. That was the best business you had yet done?—A. Yes.

Q. On what part of the American coast did you fish?—A. From Mount Desert to Cape Cod.

Q. In what vessel were you in 1858?—A. The Sarah B. Harris; I then made my first experience as master.

Q. How many trips did you make to the bay in 1858?—A. Two.

Q. What did you catch?—A. 130 barrels on the first and 170 barrels on the second.

Q. Where did you catch the 130 barrels?—A. At the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Where did you make your second trip?—A. At the Magdalen Islands and at Margaree—broad off Margaree Island.

Q. How many of these 300 barrels do you think were caught within 3 miles of the shore?—A. Well, as well as I could judge, we might have so caught 15 barrels.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1859?—A. Yes; in the Trenton.

Q. Were you mackerel or cod fishing?—A. I was cod-fishing one trip and mackereling one trip.

Q. You were first cod-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. On Banks Orphan and Bradley.

Q. Were you successful?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you make your second trip?—A. In the bay, for mackerel.

Q. What did you then catch?—A. About 145 barrels.

Q. Where did you get them?—A. We caught the most of them off Cape George, on Fisherman's Bank.

Q. Did you catch any portion of them within three miles of the coast?—A. Yes.

Q. About what portion?—A. 10 or 12 barrels, I should judge; they were caught around Pomquet Island.

Q. What did you do in 1860?—A. I was banking.

Q. Cod fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you do well?—A. Yes; very well, indeed.

Q. Did you go into the bay the same year?—A. No; I did not again go into the bay until 1862.

Q. In 1861 you were on the American coast?—A. Yes.

Q. Mackereling?—A. Yes.

Q. Seining?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels did you take?—A. 500, I think.

Q. Where were you in 1862?—A. In the bay, in the schooner Roger Williams.

Q. How many trips did you make?—A. Two.

Q. How much did you get?—A. 300 barrels each trip.

Q. Where did you catch them?—A. Most of them at Magdalen Islands.

Q. Any portion of them inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. What portion, do you think?—A. Probably we got 20 barrels inshore.

Q. In 1863 where were you?—A. On our shores. From that time up

to 1872, ten years, I was fishing on our shores—mackerel-fishing in small boats.

Q. Were not the 10 years from 1866 to 1876?—A. No.

Q. In 1863 what did you do?—A. I was in the Franklin F. Schank.

Q. Where did you go first?—A. To the Grand Banks.

Q. Did you go into the bay at all?—A. Yes, in the fall.

Q. What did you catch?—A. 160 barrels of mackerel.

Q. Where did you catch them?—A. At Magdalen Islands and East Point.

Q. How many of those do you think you took inshore?—A. 15 barrels.

Q. Where did you catch them?—A. Right off Red Head, at Souris.

Q. Were you close in?—A. Yes.

Q. How did you catch them?—A. It was blowing fresh at the time, and we sprung up and caught them.

Q. In 1864 where were you?—A. On our shores.

Q. Cod-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. How many trips did you make?—A. Our trips were short.

Q. How many pounds or quintals did you get for the whole season?—

A. I made two trips and got 145,000 pounds each trip.

Q. Was that being very successful?—A. Yes.

Q. Take 1865—on the first trip did you go to the Banks or bay?—A. To the Banks.

Q. Did you do well there?—A. Yes.

Q. What else did you do that year?—A. I did not do anything.

Q. Did you catch any haddock?—A. I think we did a little haddock-ing, but nothing to speak of that year.

Q. From 1866 to 1876 you were on the American shore?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you go into the bay at all?—A. No.

Q. What were you engaged in?—A. In market fishing, for Boston market, for haddock or mackerel or any fish we could catch.

Q. You are out but a day or two?—A. We make short trips, sometimes two trips a week, sometimes one trip.

Q. For fresh fish?—A. Yes.

Q. You have never done any fishing with pounds and nets on shore?—A. No.

Q. During the ten years from 1866 to 1876 you were fishing on the American shore—were you successful?—A. Yes, successful.

Q. How did you succeed during the 10 years you were fishing on the American coast compared with the long period you were in the bay?—

A. I think it was a little better than it was in the bay.

Q. You were in the bay from 1855 to 1865, during the Reciprocity Treaty, and there was nothing to prevent you fishing where you pleased. Do you think you gave a fair trial to the inshore fisheries?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the result of your experience during those 10 years you were in the bay as to the inshore fishing compared with the fishing outside?—A. As far as my own experience goes, I never reaped much benefit from the inshore fishing.

Q. And yet you tried it?—A. Yes, often.

Q. Taking the bay fishing as a whole, do you think the right to fish within three miles adds much to its value?—A. It did not to me, to my fishing.

Q. That is your experience?—A. Yes.

Q. You have been cod-fishing a good while?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you used fresh bait?—A. Yes.

Q. And fished with salt bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Take the result of your experience. Do you think it would be more beneficial as regards the pecuniary results of the trips to go in for fresh bait or to take salt bait, and rely on what fresh bait you can catch at the Banks and stay out?—A. To stay out would be more profitable to me.

Q. You admit that fresh bait is better side by side than salt bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Then what is the reason why you think it is better to stay out with salt bait?—A. On account of the time you lose in going in and the money it costs to get it.

Q. To get it and keep it?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you find it pretty expensive?—A. I found it very expensive.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. For the last sixteen years you have been fishing on your own shores, catching fresh fish for market?—A. Some parts of the season I have.

Q. Have you been cod-fishing portions of the seasons?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you been on the Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. From 1866 to 1876 I believe you were off your own coast catching fresh fish for market?—A. Yes.

Q. So that for those ten years you know nothing of the mode of fishing on the Banks from personal experience?—A. No.

Q. Previous to ten years ago, the system of fishing with fresh bait had not come into vogue, had it?—A. Yes, I think it had before ten years ago.

Q. Do you think that before ten years ago Bank codfishermen were accustomed to take fresh bait or to run in to the coast for it?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever try it yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go for fresh bait?—A. Round Cape Sable, and round to a place called Pubnico.

Q. Did you fish on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland at all?—A. Not at that time.

Q. You never fished with fresh bait there?—A. No.

Q. You don't know anything about running into Newfoundland for fresh bait?—A. No.

Q. You were on Georges Banks?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you run in from Georges Bank for fresh bait?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you got any memorandum of the results of the voyages?—A. No.

Q. You cannot remember them?—A. No; I did not think it was necessary.

Q. And you cannot tell, of course, what the results were?—A. No.

Q. And therefore you don't know whether one was better than the other?—A. I remember going into Cape Sable for bait to go on Banquero after halibut and codfish. I cannot remember the name of the harbor where we went; it is a great place to go and get fresh bait.

Q. How many times did you run in for fresh bait from the Georges?—A. About a dozen times.

Q. In one season?—A. In different seasons.

Q. Have you ever gone and fished on the Georges solely with salt bait?—A. No.

Q. Or anywhere else—on the Grand Banks?—A. Yes, I have on the Grand Banks.

Q. How many seasons were you on the Grand Banks?—A. Two or three.

Q. When was that?—A. I don't remember the year; some time during the ten years. We made one trip there. We would go in the winter market fishing, and in the summer would make a trip to the Banks.

Q. During the last 14 years you have never been in Bay St. Lawrence fishing?—A. I think I was there in 1873 in the Franklin S. Schank.

Q. That is a memorandum you made up from your memory?—A. Yes.

Q. Refer to it again. You stated in answer to Mr. Dana that 1863 was the last year you were in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. Then for the last fourteen years you have not been in the bay fishing?—A. No.

Q. Then you know nothing about where the fish were caught during those fourteen years?—A. No. I cannot answer it exactly, because my figures don't agree. My dates don't agree with my conscience. I have got it that I was there in 1873 in the Franklin S. Schank, and you have put it at 1863. I was in the Franklin S. Schank in 1873.

Q. Then you were not in that vessel in 1863?—A. No.

Q. Where were you in 1863?—A. I must have been on our shores. I took notes of the years when I was in the bay, but of the years when I was on our shore and at the Banks I did not.

Q. Could you from your memory state accurately what years you were in the bay?—A. My memory fails me. I have not a good memory.

Q. You cannot tell from memory the years you were in the bay?—A. No, unless I were to sit down and think it over.

Q. Irrespective of that one trip in the Franklin S. Schank in the fall of 1873, you have not been in the bay for fourteen years?—A. No.

Q. During all those years you do not pretend to say where the fish were caught?—A. I do not.

Q. As to the Franklin S. Schank, what became of her?—A. She was owned in Rockport.

Q. Was she not seized?—A. Yes.

Q. In what year?—A. The year she was built. I don't remember what the year was. She was seized and went to Quebec.

Q. Was she sold?—A. Yes, and the parties bought her back.

Q. What was she condemned and sold for?—A. For net fishing within the limits.

Q. She was sold and condemned?—A. Yes; that was before I went in her.

Q. She was bought back and then you went in her?—A. Yes.

Q. What time of the year did you come to the bay in her on the fall trip in 1873?—A. About the 15th of September we left home.

Q. I suppose you got down to the bay about the 25th?—A. About 20th or along there.

Q. Where did you go?—A. We went to the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Is it customary for vessels to go to Magdalen Islands after 25th September?—A. It is.

Q. I understood they generally left about 25th September or 1st October?—A. Some do not leave there till the weather blows them away.

Q. When is that?—A. When the anchors won't hold on the bottom.

Q. When is that?—A. About the last of November.

Q. Are you sure in stating that?—A. Yes.

Q. That mackerel-fishing vessels remain there till the last of November?—A. Yes; I staid myself.

Q. In what year?—A. I don't remember the year.

Q. You have not been there for 14 years?—A. I know I have not.

Q. Can you remember the name of the vessel you were in when you staid till the last of November?—A. Roger Williams.

Q. That was in 1862, was it?—A. Yes; we went adrift. We had to leave.

Q. Can you remember the time?—A. I cannot remember the time.

Q. Was it the last of November?—A. It was somewhere about the first.

Q. How do you mean you went adrift?—A. We never stay in the bay till the last of November. We always reckon to be out of the bay by the 10th of November.

Q. You mean the last of October?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it not the first of October they leave the Magdalen Islands?—A. About the last.

Q. A witness (Mr. Cook) who preceded you said that from the 5th to the 10th of October they left there. Where else did you fish that year in the Franklin S. Schank?—A. At East Point, Prince Edward Island.

Q. How did you fish there; did you go inshore and drift out?—A. What we caught we caught to an anchor inshore.

Q. Did you try fishing and drifting off?—A. Yes.

Q. Were there any vessels with you?—A. There were not any the day we caught our mackerel. They were all in the harbor at Souris.

Q. When you were fishing, drifting off the land, were there any other vessels there?—A. Yes.

Q. Lots of them?—A. Yes.

Q. How many would you say?—A. 30 or 40 sail.

Q. All engaged in the same mode of fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there not a larger fleet generally found off East Point than 30 or 40 sail?—A. Sometimes there are more, and sometimes less.

Q. Sometimes a good deal larger?—A. That was about an average that year.

Q. Can you remember, leaving out the Franklin S. Schank, what proportion of the mackerel which you caught in the bay fourteen years ago was taken within three miles of shore?—A. I think about one-ninth part, as near as I could judge from the little experience I had.

Q. Your experience was not much?—A. No.

Q. Did you ever fish about Seven Islands?—A. No.

Q. Nor in Bay Chaleurs?—A. No.

Q. Nor along the west shore of New Brunswick, from Miscou to Mir-michi?—A. Off shore I have a little.

Q. You have never tried within three miles of the shore?—A. No; not off that shore.

Q. Did you fish round the bend of Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes; I have tried there.

Q. Did you ever try within three miles of the shore, except at East Point?—A. Yes.

Q. Whereabouts?—A. Off St. Peter's, New London Head, and all along what we call the Sand Hills.

Q. Did you try many times there?—A. Different times, yes.

Q. And you always tried by going in and drifting off?—A. No; the wind would not always allow us to do that. Sometimes we would drift north and south. The wind would not always be right offshore, and it all depends on the wind. Sometimes we drifted along the shore; sometimes from north and south; sometimes in and sometimes out.

Q. The fleet all pursued the same mode of fishing?—A. When I was trying along there I was always alone. I never happened to be in any fleet when fishing there.

Q. You never saw anybody else doing so?—A. I say I never tried with any fleet inside of three miles.

Q. Did you ever see any other vessels fishing in that way within three miles of the shore at the island?—A. Yes.

Q. How could you see them?—A. They were a distance off, trying along.

Q. There were vessels there besides you?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you mean when you said you were always alone?—A. Away from the fleet.

Q. Were there, or were there not, other vessels with you when you were so fishing?—A. At a distance from me.

Q. What distance out?—A. Perhaps five or six miles along the shore.

Q. How many would there be?—A. Ten or twelve going and coming, some one way and some another. As far as my eye could see I would see vessels.

Q. You saw vessels more or less all the time?—A. Yes.

Q. You always saw them when off the shore?—A. Most generally.

Q. Is not the fleet accustomed to largely fish along there?—A. When they strike mackerel they generally bunch up. When they cannot find any they go flying all around the shores.

Q. When they catch the mackerel schooling they bunch together, a good many of them?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. As high as 105 sail.

Q. Round one school?—A. Yes.

Q. Catching mackerel off the island?—A. I did not say off the island.

Q. Did you not understand that my questions had reference to the north side of Prince Edward Island?—A. I did not understand you to say within the three-mile limit.

Q. Did you understand me to refer to the north side of the island when you spoke about the vessels being scattered about at one time, and then being together in a bunch?—A. I did.

Q. When you gave your answers to me you had reference to Prince Edward Island?—A. I said I had seen 150 sail of vessels off the coast of the island.

Q. And every time you have been there, you have seen vessels more or less fishing off the coast?—A. Sailing up and down and trying to fish.

Q. And have you known any fish caught there?—A. Yes.

Q. As to distances from the shore; is there much difficulty in telling the exact distance you are off shore?—A. Yes, I should judge there was.

Q. A man might think he was three miles off when he was only two and a half, or he might think he was outside the limits when he was really very near the line of the limits, might he?—A. Yes. The way I have always found it is this: if we thought we were a mile and a half off shore, and we pulled to shore, we would find it three or four miles.

Q. Where used you to harbor at the island?—A. I have been into about all the harbors there. We used to anchor a good deal to a lee.

Q. Where?—A. Off East Point.

Q. There is a good lee off East Point?—A. Yes.

Q. You never had any difficulty in running round the point when the wind was from the northwest and getting a good lee?—A. No.

Q. And when the wind was from the other side you slipped round the point?—A. Yes.

Q. There is no difficulty about doing that?—A. No.

Q. It is perfectly safe?—A. No, it is not perfectly safe.

Q. Why not?—A. Because when the wind comes to the eastward you have to get away. You have no lee when the wind is from the eastward.

Q. What harbors can you go into?—A. Into no harbor with a south-east wind.

Q. You have not been there since the breakwater was built?—A. I have not been there since 1873.

Q. Do you know that a large breakwater has been built since then?—A. They were commencing to build a breakwater then, but only large enough for two or three whale-boats.

Q. You have not seen the breakwater which has been built there at an expense of \$60,000 or \$70,000?—A. No.

Q. How can you say it was but sufficient to cover three or four whale-boats?—A. It was not built when I was there.

Q. Did you ever fish much about Margaree?—A. Yes.

Q. Within three miles of the shore?—A. No.

Q. Not off Margaree?—A. I fished round Margaree, not within three miles of the shore.

Q. You did not try there?—A. No; we were off shore.

Q. You are sure of that?—A. Yes.

Q. Although it is sixteen years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. Although you had the right to fish where you pleased during many of the years of which you have spoken. Did no other vessels do it?—A. No.

Q. How can you tell?—A. We could not find any when we were there.

Q. You swear you never went in to try within three miles of the shore; is that the fact?—A. I don't recollect of swearing I never went within three miles of shore to try.

Q. At Margaree?—A. I don't remember it.

Q. Did you or did you not?—A. I don't remember anything about it. I don't remember you asking me a question about Margaree Island.

Q. Did you or did you not ever try to fish within three miles of the shore at or about Margaree?—A. I have.

Q. Where and when?—A. In different years. Almost every year I ever fished there we tried more or less.

Q. And the fleet tried more or less?—A. Yes.

Q. Do many of the fleet go there in the fall?—A. We went to Margaree, Port Hood, and Cape George; some part of the fall we would be up and down that coast.

Q. Sometimes fishing within three miles of the shore and drifting off?—A. They cannot be always drifting off, because the wind is sometimes blowing on shore.

Q. When the wind is favorable, is that mode of fishing pursued?—A. Yes.

Q. And they tried it every year?—A. Every year I have been there.

Q. When the wind is favorable they try within the limits and drift off shore. That is the fact?—A. They try more or less inshore and drift off.

Q. What the results of the vessels' voyages were, you don't know?—A. No.

Q. You kept on trying every year within the lines?—A. Occasionally we tried.

Q. Is there not round Margaree Island itself very excellent fishing ground?—A. I never found it so.

Q. Have you heard other fishermen speak of it as such?—A. I have heard of other vessels doing well there. It had been said there were

mackerel there, but when we got there we did not find any. I have heard from fishermen that they found fish there.

Q. You never were in Bay Chaleurs?—A. No.

Q. You don't know anything about the fishing there?—A. No.

Q. Did you try there in 1873?—A. We tried there.

Q. What did you catch there?—A. Nothing.

Q. Did you ever try off Cape Breton shore?—A. I never tried along the north shore of Cape Breton. We tried at the Magdalen Islands and Prince Edward Island. I understand you now refer to 1873.

Q. You went to Margaree?—A. Yes.

Q. You tried once and did not catch any?—A. Yes, and went away to Magdalen Islands.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Your memorandum is made up for the bay voyages only?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you make it up; before you came here?—A. I made a kind of memorandum at home and copied it when I came here.

Q. Were you in the bay some time in 1855?—A. Yes.

Q. And in 1856?—A. Yes.

Q. And in 1858?—A. Yes.

Q. State what years you were in the bay.—A. In 1854 in C. C. Davis; 1855, Racer; 1856; Belvidere; 1858, Sarah B. Harris; 1859, Trenton; 1860, Trenton; 1862, Roger Williams; 1873, Franklin S. Schank.

Q. Do you think that during these eight years you gave a fair trial to the inshore fisheries?—A. Yes.

Q. And you found them to be of little value; you tried them in various ways—drifting off sometimes, and anchoring and drifting off at other times, according to the wind?—A. Yes.

Q. And you know of no other way of drifting?—A. Yes.

No. 64.

JOHN C. KNOWLTON, fisherman, of Rockport, Mass., was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster :

Question. Rockport is a town adjoining Gloucester, and in the same maritime district?—Answer. Yes.

Q. How old are you?—A. I am 39.

Q. When did you first go fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. In 1851.

Q. How many voyages in all did you make to the bay?—A. Nine.

Q. In what year did you make your last voyage there?—A. In 1874; 3 years ago.

Q. Were you sharesman or skipper?—A. I was sharesman.

Q. Who was skipper?—A. Donald McDonald.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take?—A. I think we landed 430 barrels at Canso, where I left the vessel, which went back to the bay, while I returned home.

Q. What became of her afterward?—A. She came home, I think, with about 575 or 600 barrels, including the 430 mentioned.

Q. Was this not an unusually good catch for that year?—A. No; there were vessels which did a great deal better than that.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. When was this?—A. In 1874; 3 years ago.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. Where were the mackerel taken which you caught ?—A. The first we caught were taken close inshore at the Miramichi Bar, or in other words, I might say, close to the mouth of Miramichi Harbor, where we went to make a harbor.

Q. That is outside of Miramichi Bay ?—A. Yes. Our fishermen call it a harbor, where we can get round under the lee of the wind, and we can get round that bar and make a good harbor with the wind in a certain direction.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you get there ?—A. Something like 30 or 40. I was then in the Grace L. Fears. We then came across off North Cape, and I think that we got some 60 or 70 barrels more between there and North Cape, broad off shore.

Q. At what distance from the shore ?—A. Well, I think 10 or 12 miles likely, or 15 miles.

Q. Where did you go from there ?—A. We fished down off North Cape and around there; we tried for one or two days, and then we went up around West Cape and came back again. We principally fished up and down the island.

Q. Did you fish up and down Prince Edward Island on the north side ?—A. We did so on the east side.

Q. What do you call the east side ?—A. The part between North Cape and East Point.

Q. How far from the shore did you fish off the bend of the island ?—A. Well, with the exception of the time when we were coming out of Cascumpeque, we fish outside of the three-mile limit.

Q. How far from the shore ?—A. From 12 to 20 miles, I should say, or something in that neighborhood.

Q. Measured from where ?—A. The main land.

Q. From the extreme bend of the island ?—A. No; but from the nearest land opposite where we were.

Q. You have told us the places where you fished that year within three miles of the shore ?—A. Yes; with the exception of the time when we were coming out of Cascumpeque Harbor. We then got about 50 wash barrels. I think we might have hove to somewhere about, I won't say within the three-mile limit, outside the bar, among the fishing boats, and drifted right off, so that, while doing so, we got about 60 wash barrels.

Q. Which was the next previous year when you were in the gulf ?—A. 1872; I was then in the Waverley, Captain Tarr.

Q. How many barrels did you catch ?—A. We brought home 230.

Q. Where did you get them ?—A. We caught part of them off Prince Edward Island, between East Point and North Cape, up and down the island—well, from New London up off North Cape and broad off the island.

Q. How far from the shore of the island did you usually fish ?—A. I never was fishing within the limits with the exception of one voyage, and I caught very few mackerel there.

Q. To what voyage do you refer ?—A. To the one I made in the Grace L. Fears in 1874.

Q. Where else besides off the island did you fish in 1872 in the Waverley ?—A. Between East Point and the Magdalen Islands, and up on Banks Bradley and Orphan; I also fished up and down the island, 10, 15, or 20 miles up off North Cape.

Q. What was the next previous year when you were in the bay ?—A. I will not be sure whether it was in 1868 or 1869.

Q. Who was captain of the vessel ?—A. Mitchell.

Q. You have brought no memoranda with you?—A. No; I could not make up any, as far as that goes, for that voyage.

Q. All you have done is to put down what your recollection enables you to state?—A. Yes.

Q. You have no books or anything to guide you in this regard?—A. No.

Q. What did you do while you were with Captain Mitchell?—A. We took 240 barrels of mackerel.

Q. Where?—A. On Banks Bradley and Orphan, and at the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Did you get any of them anywhere else?—A. No.

Q. In what schooner were you in your next previous year in the bay?

—A. The Laura H. Dodd.

Q. During how many years were you in her?—A. Two; 1864 and 1865.

Q. How many trips did you make during each of these years?—A. Two.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take in your two trips in 1864?—A. About 700, I think.

Q. Where?—A. At the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Were any of them caught inshore, except at the Magdalen Islands?—A. No.

Q. Whereabouts at the Magdalen Islands were they caught?—A. At Bird Rocks, principally.

Q. Is that true of both trips?—A. Well, during both, and more especially during the first trip, we got a great many barrels at the Bird Rocks.

Q. Did you fish inshore anywhere?—A. No.

Q. The next year, 1865, you were in the Laura L. Dodd?—A. Yes.

Q. And you made two trips?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels did you catch?—A. About 600, I think,

Q. Where?—A. On Banks Bradley and Orphan, and at the Magdalen Islands and off East Point; and a few were taken up and down the island.

Q. How far from land did you fish off East Point?—A. It might have been, I should say, 15 or 20 miles.

Q. How far from the land was it?—A. We were outside the limits, and from 10 to 20 miles off; no mackerel were to be got inshore at all. We tried inshore.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. You have not fished since 1874?—A. No; not in the bay; but I have on our shore.

Q. When was your last trip made before 1874?—A. In 1873.

Q. And when was your next and previous trip made—in 1872?—A. No.

Q. Did you not state, in direct examination, that you fished in 1872. in the bay?—A. I believe I did not—yes; I was in the Waverley in 1872.

Q. I thought you said that you came here without memoranda?—A. I did not come with any; but I made a hasty sketch of my fishing experience the other night when I was coming down here on the steamer. I have nothing here that amounts to anything.

Q. Do you recollect, in those memoranda, that you were in the bay in 1872?—A. Yes.

Q. In what vessel?—A. The Waverley.

Q. If I understood you rightly, in 1874, your last year in the bay, you caught over one hundred barrels inshore?—A. Yes. I would not say

over one hundred, but it was somewhere in the neighborhood of one hundred. We caught fifty wash barrels off Cascumpeque.

Q. What do you mean by "wash barrels"?—A. A barrel of mackerel dressed just as we catch them, four or five buckets of water being poured on the fish.

Q. Would that be equal to a barrel packed?—A. No; it takes about four wash barrels to make three packed barrels.

Q. When did you go into the gulf in 1874?—A. We left Gloucester after the 4th of July—I think about the 8th.

Q. And where did you go after you passed through the Gut?—A. We went over to Souris, where we put ashore a couple of ladies, and then we worked along the island.

Q. Did these girls belong to the island?—A. Yes; we landed them in Yankee Cove.

Q. Did you fish at Souris?—A. No.

Q. Why did you not try there?—A. Because the mackerel there were not good for anything; they were small and poor.

Q. Were the boats fishing there?—A. Some were, I think.

Q. Did you try there?—A. O, yes; while the boat was ashore with the girls we hauled the main boom out and threw over a little bait, but the mackerel we caught were not fat enough to grease the eyebrow of a mosquito.

Q. But the boats were fishing there?—A. Yes.

Q. And still these mackerel were not fat enough to grease the eyebrow of a mosquito?—A. Yes. We afterwards went north, and we got better fish there and near Miramichi.

Q. How many mackerel did you catch at Souris?—A. About fifty or sixty.

Q. What did you do with them?—A. I do not know; but I guess that we ground them up for bait.

Q. You would not put them in barrels at all?—A. No; we did not take any account of them at all.

Q. Were those the kind which the boats were catching?—A. I guess they were.

Q. Are you sure of that?—A. I am not quite sure; but I guess the fish were all alike around there.

Q. Did you look at the fish which the boats were catching?—A. No; we did not stop there, but we saw the boats catching fish.

Q. On that occasion you lee-bowed the boats?—A. O, no; save our boat which put the ladies ashore.

Q. Did you not go in among the boats which were fishing off the shore?—A. No; we ran in there.

Q. You ran in among the boats?—A. No; but as we were going down from Yankee Cove, down by East Point, we saw the boats off fishing.

Q. Did you see what sort of fish they were catching?—A. Yes; we could see them fishing, and I judge that they were catching just the same fish as we caught.

Q. You threw bait over to catch poor fish?—A. We threw a little bait over and tried the fishing.

Q. And then you drifted off shore?—A. No; as soon as the boat came back we got under weigh; we threw bait over out of curiosity to find out what kind of fish they were and to see if they would bite.

Q. And then you went on to North Cape?—A. We went to the north and worked up the island; but we did not catch any fish.

Q. Did you try while going up?—A. Yes; once in awhile we threw over a little bait.

Q. Was this within three miles of the shore?—A. No.

Q. That was the only time that you caught any fish within three miles of the shore, until you reached Miramichi?—A. Yes; then we fished off Miramichi Bar.

Q. That was close inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. And there you got about 40 barrels?—A. Somewhere about 30—between 30 and 40 barrels.

Q. It is as likely to have been 40 as 30?—A. Possibly the number might have been 40.

Q. These were good fish?—A. Well, they were better than the first ones which they caught.

Q. You kept them?—A. Yes; we salted them.

Q. They were fat enough to grease a mosquito?—A. Well, yes; but not much more. The mackerel were very poor that year in the bay.

Q. The whole time that you were there?—A. Yes.

Q. After that where did you fish?—A. Across over to North Cape, off French Village, and around off North Cape.

Q. Close inshore?—A. No; we never fished within the limits there.

Q. Why; were you afraid to do so?—A. No.

Q. Why did you not fish nearer the shore?—A. Well, we saw plenty of fish off shore. I do not know any other reason for not doing so. I was not skipper of the vessel.

Q. What was the size of your vessel?—A. One hundred and ten or 120 tons.

Q. What was her full fare?—A. About 550 barrels.

Q. How many did you actually take out of the bay?—A. We landed 430 barrels at Canso.

Q. To what number was the catch afterwards made up?—A. To somewhere about 600 barrels, I believe; I would not speak definitely on this point, but I believe they brought home about 600 barrels.

Q. On her next trip?—A. This was the whole catch including what we landed at Canso.

Q. What was your object in landing them there?—A. They wanted to get back to the bay again.

Q. You did not have a full cargo with 430 barrels?—A. I wanted to get home myself, and if I had been skipper, I should have taken the vessel home.

Q. You did not have a full cargo then?—A. Well, we had a very good fare for the time; if they had taken care, we would have had more—probably 100 barrels more.

Q. Why did the vessel not go straight home?—A. I do not know; I was not skipper.

Q. You do not know why these fish were landed at Canso?—A. I suppose that the captain thought, as I said before, that he would go back to the bay.

Q. Were you one of the sharesmen?—A. Yes.

Q. You had then something to say about it?—A. No, not at all; the captain generally does what he pleases in this respect.

Q. Does he never consult with the men?—A. He does not do so very often.

Q. On this occasion did he consult with the men?—A. No.

Q. Are you serious in saying that you do not know why you landed those fish at Canso?—A. No, I do not know. I wanted to go home, as far as I was concerned, and I did so.

Q. And he wanted to get back to the bay at once?—A. Yes, I suppose so.

Q. Was not that the reason?—A. Yes.

Q. Why did you not say so before?—A. I say I do not know the reason; there might have been other reasons. You might ask the reason why I went home, and I would say, I suppose, it was because I wanted to.

Q. But that is your own business?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you not know that the captain knew he could make two trips by transshipping his cargo at Canso?—A. Well, under some circumstances he could do so.

Q. And he could under those circumstances?—A. Yes.

Q. When the vessel came back in the fall with her second fare, did she take the barrels, which had been landed at Canso on board?—A. Yes.

Q. She just landed and left them there?—A. Yes; until she returned.

Q. I suppose that this was of considerable service to you?—A. Well, I do not know of any service that it was, unless it aided the captain's desire to get back to the bay.

Q. Does this not enable you to make two or three trips when otherwise you could only make one trip?—A. Well, sometimes it does.

Q. How long would it take you as an ordinary rule to run from Canso to Gloucester?—A. Well, I have gone home from there and come back again in eleven days.

Q. Is that the ordinary time consumed in this passage?—A. No; that is about two weeks.

Q. Are not these two weeks very important during the fishing season?—A. Well, that all depends on circumstances.

Q. If the circumstances are such that there is good fishing in the bay, is it not important to be there as soon as possible?—A. No; during the last ten years, if I had been in the bay and got a trip of mackerel, I would have taken it home.

Q. Suppose there is good fishing in the bay, is it not very important to get back there and save these two weeks?—A. No; the wear and tear caused by leaving the fish round, and the leakage, causes a large percentage of them to be lost; and thus it is a disadvantage to land and leave them there. I would never consent to the landing of a cargo of mine at Canso.

Q. Do I understand you to say that a large percentage of the pickle runs off there?—A. No; but it is bad for the fish to be left there, in some cases.

Q. Was this the case with these particular fish in that particular cargo?—A. I think it was with some of them.

Q. Will you swear that it was?—A. I will not swear that—no.

Q. Why do you mention supposititious cases, unless this has really taken place? What did you get for your mackerel that year?—A. About \$6.50 for number ones, I think.

Q. Was that the ordinary price that year?—A. Yes; for bay mackerel.

Q. You got the highest price that ruled for the season?—A. No.

Q. Then the fish were not injured in any way?—A. I do not know that they were.

Q. You stated that 600 barrels was not an extraordinary catch that year, and that others did better?—A. Yes.

Q. There was good fishing in the bay that season?—A. Yes; especially around the island.

Q. You mean inshore?—A. I mean around the island, inshore and off shore.

Q. Did you fish at all at Margaree that year?—A. No.

Q. Did you fish off Cascumpeque and Rustico, on the northern shore of the island?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you fish there after you got back from Miramichi?—A. Yes; off Cascumpeque we did.

Q. Inshore?—A. When we were coming out of the harbor—we ran in there to make a harbor—we fished coming down.

Q. Did you get good fish?—A. We got better fish than we found down off Souris.

Q. How many barrels did you catch there?—A. Somewhere about 50 or 60 wash barrels; I could not give the exact quantity.

Q. But they were good fish?—A. They were as good as any in the bay.

Q. You have no respect as a rule for bay mackerel?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. Are there good mackerel in the bay?—A. Yes; some years they are first rate and some years they are poor.

Q. I suppose this is the case everywhere?—A. Yes.

Q. As a rule there is good fishing in the bay?—A. It is not as good as it is on our shore, as a rule.

Q. Do you catch mackerel within the three-mile limit on your shore?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you swear to that?—A. Yes; I so caught some myself this season.

Q. Is it a usual thing to catch them there within the three-mile limit, or has this been the case during the last eight or ten years?—A. I do not think that it is.

Q. Then you do not wish the Commission to understand that your shore fishery is carried on within the three-mile limit?—A. No, not on the whole.

Q. Your shore fishery is prosecuted from 10 to 15 and 50 miles from the coast?—A. Yes; and 150 miles from it, off on George's Bank.

Q. That is what you call your shore fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. In point of fact no mackerel are caught as a rule within 3 miles of your shore?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. Is there good mackerel-fishing there within the three-mile limit?—A. Yes.

Q. And this always has been so?—A. Yes; there is some nice fishing there.

Q. And the American witnesses who have testified here that there is no fishing to speak of there within the three-mile limit are entirely mistaken?—A. Yes; I testify to my own experience.

Q. When were you fishing within 3 miles of your shore in a vessel?—A. Last summer, and for two days this summer.

Q. Where did you so fish last summer?—A. All up and down the coast of Maine, and right in within 3 or 4 miles of Monheiggin.

Q. I am speaking of the three-mile limit.—A. It might have been 3 or 4 miles off shore.

Q. Do you not know that this is a very vague statement? Will you swear that you fished last year along your coast and caught mackerel within 3 miles of your shore?—A. Yes.

Q. To any extent?—A. No, I won't say that.

Q. What proportion of your catch last year was taken within 3 miles of your shore?—A. Well, a very small proportion. I was only so fishing a very short time.

Q. The great bulk of the catch off the American shore is taken from 10 to 50 miles out?—A. I do not know about that.

Q. You do not know whether this is the case or not?—A. I do not know about that matter.

Q. What other time did you so fish along the American coast?—A. I so fish, more or less, most every season, for a short time, either in the bay or on our shore.

Q. Did you do so this year?—A. Yes, for a little while; about a fortnight.

Q. In what vessel?—A. In a dory and in a vessel of about forty tons.

Q. You did so in different vessels?—A. Yes; we went out on an excursion like.

Q. You were just out for a pleasure trip?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you not know that this is a rather serious matter?—A. I had just got home, and being obliged to wait a while on a certain business, I thought I would go out and catch a few fish.

Q. Just for recreation?—A. Yes.

Q. How far did you go out?—A. Well, not three gun-shots from the rocks.

Q. Where?—A. Off Cape Ann.

Q. What did you catch?—A. Mackerel.

Q. How many?—A. One day I struck a barrel myself and I suppose the six of us got eight or nine barrels.

Q. What did you fish with?—A. Lines and hooks.

Q. That was this year?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you wish the Commission to understand that the mackerel fishery was first rate this year, off the American shore, within 3 miles of the coast?—A. It was better inshore than off shore. It has been a very poor year; our mackerel-fishing has been very unsuccessful and the fishing there has been better inshore than off shore.

Q. Your fishermen have tried inshore this year?—A. Yes.

Q. And still they have been very unsuccessful?—A. Yes, and they have tried off shore.

Q. And there the fishing was worst?—A. Yes.

Q. That only shows that the mackerel have deserted your coast, both inshore and off shore?—A. It appears there are plenty of fish, but they are so small that the fishermen do not want to catch them.

Q. Do they catch them?—A. They catch some, a certain percentage of them.

Q. With what?—A. Lines and seines.

Q. As far as good fishing is concerned, there has been no fishing along your coast at all to speak of this year?—A. No; but very good fish have been caught on our shore this year.

Q. Then the American market has to be supplied with mackerel from the bay this year?—A. I do not know about that, but I think that a small percentage, likely 25 per cent. of the mackerel in the American market will come out of the bay; I do not know that I would like to swear it would be that.

Q. 25 per cent. will have to come in there from the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. Then if the fishing has been very bad on your shore, where will the rest come from?—A. From our shore.

Q. And you say that there is no fishing at all on your shore this year?—A. Yes—where I say there is no fishing at all.

Q. And 75 per cent. will come in from your shore?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel do you think have been taken on the American coast this year?—A. I could not tell you. I could not estimate the quantity.

Q. Do you know how many have come in from the bay?—A. No.

Q. Will you tell me how you estimate this—that about 25 per cent. of your supply will come from the bay and 75 per cent. from your shore, if you do not know the number caught?—A. I do not know definitely; I do not say that 25 per cent. would come from the bay but it would be about that—25 or 30 per cent.

Q. How is it possible to give a percentage if you do not know the number of barrels caught?—A. I have not made an estimate of the number; I make up this estimate from what I have seen of vessels coming in from the bay and from the boat fishing.

Q. Do you mean to say that you have come here to make this statement based on no certain knowledge of any kind, and that under these circumstances you swear to the percentage that will come from the bay, when you do not know the number of barrels of mackerel which have been caught in the bay?—A. No; I do not confine myself to any percentage; but I give the best estimate I am able to form in this relation.

Q. Is it to make a statement concerning matters about which you do not know anything that you presume to come here and give the percentage that will come into the American market from the bay, and the percentage that will come from your own shore, without knowing what the catches have been in the bay, and on the American coast? Can any man in his senses make a percentage without any basis for it?—A. I got it by inquiring from parties who had been there.

Q. Tell me how many barrels did you learn from inquiry had been taken on the American coast?—A. I cannot tell you.

Q. How many, did you learn from your inquiries, were taken in the bay?—A. Well, a large portion of the mackerel which has been caught this year in the bay has been taken by your boats, and they come into our market. When I speak about mackerel coming into our market from the bay, I mean that your folks ship them.

Q. I want to find out how many barrels these people told you came from the bay, so as to enable you to form an opinion as to the percentage?—A. Well, I would not confine myself to any rule about that matter.

Q. In point of fact, after swearing that 75 per cent. of the mackerel will come from your shore, and 25 per cent. from the bay—A. I beg your pardon.

Q. I take it that in giving me an answer to any sort of a question, you are swearing to such answer?—A. I did not speak so precisely.

Q. You understand that you are answering questions under oath?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you tell me what earthly basis you have for saying that only 25 per cent. of your supply of mackerel would come from the bay, and 75 per cent. from your own coast?—A. I say so from information that I have gathered from parties who have been there.

Q. What information is that?—A. It is that there has been a large catch of mackerel taken by the boats, up and down and around the island; it has been a very large catch, an exceedingly large catch, and an unusually large catch. I do not know whether this is so or not; I have not seen the catch, but it is on that report that I base my estimate.

Q. And because there has been an unusually large catch in the bay, you say that 25 per cent. of your supply would come thence?—A. I mean the catch by the boats—the small boats—and not by our fishermen.

Q. And this mackerel goes to the American market?—A. Yes.

Q. You have heard this, and do you give that as a reason why only

25 per cent. of your supply should come from the bay, and 75 per cent. from your own coast?—A. Yes.

Q. I could understand it if you reversed the percentages?—A. If you saw 500 sail of seiners off Cape Ann, you would begin to think that though they all got only 100 barrels apiece, still a great many fish would be taken.

Q. Did all these vessels get 100 barrels apiece?—A. I do not think that they did; I say, if they did.

Q. Will you swear that 15,000 barrels of mackerel have been caught on your coast this year?—A. Yes, I swear so; I have not seen the figures to make up statistics on, but I make them up on my own judgment; yes, sir.

Q. Did you see the fish being taken?—A. No; only partially. I saw some taken.

Q. You are speaking at random altogether?—A. I have no statistics.

Q. Because you saw the seiners, you say that they must take so much without any inquiry as to the facts?—A. I have seen them taking fish, more or less.

Q. Do you swear that 15,000 barrels have been taken on your shore this year?—A. No; I would not swear that 15,000 barrels have been taken.

Q. You will not swear what quantity has been taken?—A. No; but to the best of my opinion 15,000 barrels have been taken.

Q. Do you know what quantity has been taken this year on your shore?—A. No.

Q. Do you know what quantity has been taken this year in the bay?—A. No.

Q. And all you know about the bay mackerel fishery is that an unusually large catch has been made there this year?—A. Yes; by the boats.

Q. And you admit that on your own coast this has been a very bad season?—A. Yes.

Q. And, therefore, because you have heard that in the bay there has been an unusually large catch, and because on your own coast there has been an unusually small catch, you think that your own coast will send in 75 per cent. of the mackerel to your market, as against 25 per cent. from the bay?—A. I think so; that is my opinion.

Q. In what vessel were you in 1868?—A. The Veteran, I think.

Q. Who was her captain?—A. Mitchell.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you catch?—A. Two hundred and thirty.

Q. What was her tonnage?—A. About 70, I think.

Q. What was her full cargo?—A. Three hundred or three hundred and twenty-five barrels.

Q. Then you got pretty nearly a full fare?—A. We obtained a little over two-thirds of it.

Q. Where did you fish?—A. Around the Magdalen Islands and on Banks Bradley and Orphan.

Q. You did not attempt to go inshore?—A. No.

Q. And, although you had not a full cargo, you fished about the places you have named, and did not go inshore to complete your cargo, although you had a license?—A. Yes.

Q. Why did you take out a license?—A. We did not know where the mackerel were when we got through the Gut of Canso, and so we thought we would take out a license.

Q. Do I understand you to say that on coming into the bay you did

not know whether the fish would be inshore or off shore?—A. No; I never saw the mackerel inshore until I made my last voyage there.

Q. Is it a fact, that you do not know when you enter the bay whether the fish are inshore or not?—A. No.

Q. You made your last voyage in the bay in 1874?—A. Yes.

Q. And that was the only time when you ever saw the fish inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. If that was the case, what induced you in 1868, six years previously, to take out a license, when you did not want to go inshore at all?—A. There had been some trouble, and a license had been demanded once, I think.

Q. When you had only fished off shore?—A. We did not know about the mackerel being inshore.

Q. Is it not necessarily a privilege to be able to follow the mackerel when they run inshore in the bay and wherever they may go?—A. Yes.

Q. If successful, is it not a privilege to be able to follow the schools wherever they may go?—A. Yes.

Q. In that view of the matter, the right to fish inshore in the bay is very important to the American people?—A. Yes.

Q. Could they, in your opinion, successfully prosecute the fisheries in the bay without the right of going inshore to fish?—A. As far as my experience goes, I think that this is not necessary. We always got the principal part of our fish off shore; and I think the off-shore fisheries alone could be prosecuted successfully.

Q. Did you not tell me just now that it was a great privilege for the Americans to be able to follow the schools inshore?—A. Yes; that is a benefit to a certain degree, I think.

Q. Did you not tell me that this was a great privilege?—A. Well, it is a privilege.

Q. And a valuable privilege?—A. Well, it is a privilege worthy of a certain amount of consideration.

Q. Is it or is it not a valuable privilege?—A. It is valuable to a certain extent.

Q. To what extent is this the case?—A. Well, I could not say.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. Have you seined in United States vessels off our coast?—A. Yes.

Q. When?—A. Last year.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you get?—A. About 250, taken in six weeks; we got about 100 in one haul.

Q. You did not have very good luck?—A. The vessel had not done anything previously.

Q. Did you ever seine during any other year?—A. Yes; I did so the year before, but I only seined a short time; about four weeks.

Q. You speak of seeing a large number of seiners together; but where have you seen as many as 500 vessels fishing at once with seines or hooks off the American coast?—A. I saw them in Gloucester Harbor; they had gone in there for a harbor.

Q. Where do these vessels usually fish?—A. I never saw that number fishing together; they fish all scattered around the coast.

WEDNESDAY, *October 17, 1877.*

The Conference met.

JAMES H. MYRICK, fish-dealer, of Boston, was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster :

Question. Where were you born ?—Answer. At the town of Newcastle, State of Maine.

Q. And your home is in the Dorchester district, Boston ?—A. Yes.

Q. Where do you carry on your fishing business ?—A. Chiefly at Tignish, Prince Edward Island ; that is the part of the business which I look after and represent.

Q. Who is your partner ?—A. Isaac C. Hall.

Q. Your firm's name is Hall & Myrick ?—A. Yes.

Q. During how many years have you constantly resided, for a portion of the year, on Prince Edward Island ?—A. About 17.

Q. During how much of the year do you stay there ?—A. Usually from three to six months.

Q. At what part of the island ?—A. Tignish.

Q. Where is Tignish situated ?—A. About eight miles from North Cape, Prince Edward Island.

Q. Describe the business which you carry on there.—A. Well, we have a large retail store there, and we supply fishermen and boats, and occasionally vessels ; we buy and cure fish, and ship fish. We buy produce and we ship produce, but the fish business is the principal business which we carry on.

Q. How many fishing stages are there under your personal supervision, and where are they situated ?—A. Well, I have had four this season ; two of them are situated on the east side of North Cape, and two on the west side of it. We are near North Cape, and it is but five or six miles across.

Q. How many boats do you employ ?—A. We have the product chiefly of about 150 boats ; we employ directly 50 boats, and, in addition, we supply parties who own, perhaps, 100 boats, and obtain the product of these boats.

Q. How many men are employed in these boats ?—A. They average about three each ; perhaps at some seasons of the year the number will be a little larger.

Q. Over what extent of shore are these 150 boats located ?—A. About 30 miles.

Q. During the fishing season how often do you go over these 30 miles ?—A. I might say, I do so almost daily, so that I can see that distance along shore, that is during the busy season. I keep a house at Tignish during the summer.

Q. And is your house there so situated as to command a view of the water ?—A. Yes.

Q. How is your store there situated ?—A. It is directly near the water's edge, a stone's throw from the water.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel have been sent this year from your part of the island and your stations ?—A. What I have shipped and what I will ship, but has not yet gone forward, will amount to about 4,600 or 4,700 barrels, for my part.

Q. That does not include what Mr. Hall, of Charlottetown, will send

to market?—A. No; this is just for these 4 stations, and what I gather in from surrounding boats.

Q. How many barrels in all did you send from your own stations last year?—A. A little over 2,000.

Q. The catch is better this year than it was last?—A. Yes; very much better.

Q. Have you any vessels fishing?—A. Not from that point, anything to speak of; we have, however, some very small vessels, which are little larger than boats.

Q. Describe the size and character of those boats of yours.—A. They vary very much; a small proportion of them are what I call large boats, which will go off for three or four days, or for perhaps a week; and on which the men can cook and sleep. They are open boats, but still large enough to accommodate three or four men, for cooking and sleeping on board, and salting fish. A small portion of them are of that character, and the size of the others varies from that down to small boats of 15 and 16 feet keel. Some of the boats go out and in perhaps two or three times a day; and others will go out and remain out a week.

Q. Describe the way in which these boats of yours fish in the different parts of the season; how far from the shore do they usually go to catch mackerel? Tell all you know about that, from what falls within your personal observation.—A. It is customary for these boats to start early in the morning, and perhaps they will go off shore for a mile or $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and come to try for mackerel, and throw out bait; and if they do find mackerel there, why they stay there; but if they find few mackerel, or none there, they go out farther. Some will scatter off, while one or two may fish within one or $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the shore, another boat will go half a mile farther out, and another half a mile farther still—they scatter in that way. There is no uniform rule for taking up their places; but this is generally the way they do. Sometimes, when they find a school, all the boats will gather in together; but if they merely pick up mackerel, they may be half a mile, a mile, or two miles from the shore—stretched out along the shore.

Q. How far is the farthest distance from the shore to which these boats usually go?—A. They will go out perhaps for 7—7 or eight miles; 7 miles, I should say, would be about the greatest distance, speaking for the point where I am located. This varies in different parts of the island. At some points on it they find the fish plentiful quite near the shore, and then, perhaps, 15 or 20 miles along the shore from that point, you will have to go farther out to find them. I suppose that this depends somewhat on the character of the bottom and of the curves and tides; that is the way they fish. In the warmest weather, in midsummer, the fish are nearer inshore in my experience, and towards the fall the fishermen have to go farther out for them. When the weather gets pretty rough in the fall the small boats do not go out, but the larger boats go off longer distances.

Q. How far out did the boats go during the past month?—A. During the past month I have not been aware of any fish having been caught on the east side of North Cape, except 4 or 5 miles out; but on the other side of North Cape, the west side, they were taken nearer inshore; this is almost always the case in the fall—on the one side the fish are then taken at a longer distance off shore, while on the other side they are quite handy. This depends on the wind; a west wind drives the fish on shore on the one side and off shore on the other. They go with the wind, I think.

Q. Do these boats usually fish drifting or at anchor?—A. They almost

always fish at anchor, and very rarely drifting, unless it is at a very moderate rate.

Q. Do these boats catch their mackerel from the bottom or the top of the water?—A. They may sometimes have to take longer lines and fish from the bottom; and then again the fish may come for a little while up to the surface. I think that this season—during the latter part of it particularly—the men have fished nearer the surface; the fish have come up, but they have been very delicate about biting; it was hard to make them bite any way; they came up around the hooks and ate up the bait that was thrown to them; but they did not like the look of the hooks, and they avoided them.

Q. What bait do you furnish your boats with?—A. Herring mostly, and sometimes pogies and menhaden.

Q. Which is the better bait?—A. Pogies.

Q. Why do you not use them altogether?—A. They come more expensive; we have to get them wholly from the States, and they are too expensive for boat-fishing; and then this is lighter bait, it floats on the surface. It is fatter, and it keeps the fish from going down.

Q. You have seen, I suppose, the United States fishing schooners fishing off your part of the coast?—A. O, yes.

Q. At what distance from the shore do they fish?—A. Of course this varies at different seasons; but as a general thing the mackerel that are caught inshore are smaller than those which are taken outside. Now, this season, I have known vessels come in, but not a great many, and fish near the shore, within two or three miles off, fish awhile, and get a few mackerel, and on finding what their quality was, go off somewhere else; sometimes, however, they get better mackerel inside.

Q. Do the United States schooners usually fish as near the shore as the boats?—A. No; this is not the case at the point where I am located—decidedly not.

Q. How is it that the boats can fish successfully where the vessels cannot do so?—A. Well, a boat will go out and anchor down; throw over bait and take it very leisurely, sticking perhaps in the same spot all day, or for a good many hours, and pick up a few mackerel, while a vessel will come along, and finding the same kind of fishing, will not think it worth while to stay there, but go off; then, again, I have information as to a great many instances of vessels coming and finding boats picking up mackerel pretty freely, and throwing bait, and staying for half an hour or an hour and not catching any mackerel, go off; that has been my experience for a good many years. I have been out with the boats for half a day's fishing and seen it.

Q. Do the vessels ever fish from the bottom as the boats do?—A. Not often, but they will do so sometimes. When they cannot find fish anywhere else, they may come among the boats, put their anchors down, and spring up, as they call it, and catch a few mackerel; but they do not make a practice of it, as a general thing. They may do this sometimes.

Q. Taking the past few years, say the past four or five years, to what extent have United States vessels fished under your observation within 3 miles of the shore?—A. Well, during the past four or five years, and during the past three years particularly, the fleet of American vessels around the island has been quite small; this has been more particularly the case since the great storm. They have rather avoided fishing near that part of the island since then.

Q. What do you mean by the great storm?—A. I refer to the storm

we had in 1873—the August gale, which wrecked so many American schooners about the island.

Q. As you have been on the island every year for something like seventeen years, you must have heard discussions as to the three-mile limit, and so on?—A. Yes; I have heard a good deal said about it.

Q. Has your attention been drawn to estimate the distance from the shore at which the three-mile limit lies?—A. Yes; I think that my judgment is pretty good on that subject.

Q. During how many months are your vessels employed in fishing?—A. Well, cod and mackerel are caught for about $4\frac{1}{2}$ months in the year, on an average.

Q. And how long are mackerel caught?—A. For about $3\frac{1}{2}$ months.

Q. What is a good catch of mackerel for one of your boats during the season?—A. I consider 75 barrels a fair average; indeed, this is a very good catch for the average.

Q. For three men?—A. Yes.

Q. And what would you regard as a good catch for a single day?—A. Well, I shall say two barrels, from 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ barrels; and this is better than the average.

Q. Where do all your fish go?—A. To Boston and New York, but to Boston more particularly.

Q. What is the largest number of barrels of mackerel which ever went from your port to Boston during one year?—A. Something under 7,000, perhaps 6,800.

Q. Was that from you personally or from your firm?—A. That was from me personally; that was the catch for one year; but I do not think that it all went down the same season.

Q. But it all went down earlier or later?—A. Yes.

Q. Has the boat-fishing been increasing since you began to go to the island?—A. Yes; it has increased very materially.

Q. And how has this been for the last few years, say since July, 1873?—A. It has been increasing a good deal since then.

Q. What kind of a year was last year for mackerel?—A. The catch was very small and light.

Q. For boats and vessels?—A. Yes; for both.

Q. Did any vessels that came to fish in the gulf last year make any money at all?—A. I made inquiries in the States, and the result of what I could gather was that there was not a vessel which visited the bay last year that made any money.

Q. Do you know how the vessel-fishing has been in the bay during the present season?—A. Well, I do somewhat; as I stated before, a few vessels have been around the part of the island where I am located. I have seen some vessels there, but the number has been small.

Q. As far as you know, what has been the result of the vessel-fishing in the bay this season?—A. Well, I should think it has been light—quite a small catch.

Q. How has it been with the boats?—A. They have made a very fair catch this season; this has been above the average considerably, I should think.

Q. During the Reciprocity Treaty, that is, prior to 1866, were many provincial vessels fishing for mackerel?—A. Well, about Prince Edward Island, there was then quite a fleet of vessels.

Q. After the Reciprocity Treaty was abrogated, what became of them?—A. Well, they gradually abandoned that business, so that at the present time they have very few vessels of any considerable size fitted

out for mackerel-fishing in the gulf; that is, from Prince Edward Island. I do not know how it is in this respect with Nova Scotia.

Q. And there are none now there?—A. The number of vessels of any considerable size there is now very few.

Q. Do you know of any there?—A. Yes.

Q. Name them.—A. There is one, the Lettie, which my partner fits out at Charlottetown; she has always been engaged in that business. She goes fishing for two or three months in the year. I do not know of any other, though I have understood that some others have been fitted out after this purpose.

Q. What view did you and your partner take with regard to securing the fishery clauses in the Treaty of Washington?—A. Well, we were very anxious to have free fish. My partner took a more active part in this relation; he had more opportunity than I had for doing so.

Q. He went to Washington?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not?—A. No.

Q. What was the effect on your business of the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty, and the imposition of a duty on Canadian mackerel entering the American market?—A. Well, I cannot answer that question further than by saying that they had a very disastrous effect on our business.

Q. Did you begin to feel the full effect of it at once, or did this take some time?—A. No; during two or three years afterward we got a very good quality of mackerel, for which we obtained pretty good prices, so that we could afford to pay the duty.

Q. Were these currency prices?—A. Yes. Prices then ruled pretty high; that was a time when the price of everything was somewhat inflated.

Q. I suppose that you may say either that prices ruled high or that currency then ruled low?—A. Yes; you can look at it either way. But when we reached the year 1871, I think a good large catch was then taken on the American shore, and a catch of poorer mackerel on the island shore, and then matters turned the other way with us. Prices were very low, and we suffered accordingly.

Q. What became of your business, in view of that large catch on the United States coast?—A. Prices went down very low, and we lost money very fast. Prices collapsed that year completely.

Q. What would be the effect upon the business of your firm of putting back the former duty of \$2 a barrel upon mackerel sent from Prince Edward Island to the States? I would like you to explain your views in this regard particularly.—A. Well, I suppose, since we have got our business established there, and our buildings and facilities for carrying on the fishery, it would be difficult for us to abandon it altogether, but we would then turn our attention more particularly to cod-fishing, until at any rate the mackerel season got well advanced and the mackerel became fat, and if any would bring a high price it would be those taken in the latter part of the season. We might catch some of them, but we would not undertake to catch poor mackerel to compete with those caught on the American shore.

Q. Explain why not.—A. Well, No. 3 mackerel, which are poor mackerel, generally bring a good deal less price than fat mackerel, and men do not catch any more poor mackerel than they do fat ones; the cost of catching them and of barreling and shipping them is the same, while the fat mackerel bring a better price. We could carry on the cod-fishing business irrespective of the American market; we could catch, cure, and ship codfish to other markets—to the West India markets, and we might

make a fair business at that; but as to catching mackerel exclusively under such circumstances, it would not do to depend on it at all.

Q. How does Prince Edward Island mackerel compare in point of size and quality with those which are caught at the Magdalen Islands?—A. Well, in the reports I have heard of vessels fishing at the Magdalen Islands and at the point where the mackerel are sold, they speak of the Magdalen Island mackerel as being much better and larger; that is, for the greater number of years.

Q. Of late years, where have the best No. 1 mackerel been taken chiefly?—A. These are taken on the American shore; they suit the better class of customers and bring the highest price.

Q. Is there an inspector of mackerel on the island?—A. Yes.

Q. Are you a deputy inspector?—A. Yes; my name is on the barrels as deputy inspector and I pay my fees to the inspector-general.

Q. Who is he?—A. His name is Frank Arsenault; he lives in Prince County.

Q. What do you pay him?—A. I think it is somewhere about 2 cents a barrel; it is not a very heavy fee.

Q. Mr. Davies says that you are mistaken about that?—A. My books show that we have paid it every year, whether it is a mistake or not. I obtained permission some years ago to act as deputy inspector, and I have paid my fees.

Q. Every year since?—A. Yes, every year since, I think. I think my books will show that I have paid the fees every year, for five or six years.

Q. You have paid two cents a barrel?—A. Yes, somewhere about that; between two and three cents.

Q. Is there any sort of doubt about your brand as inspector of mackerel?—A. No.

Q. Describe exactly what you put on the barrels.—A. The brand is circular; the first words are, "Prince Edward Island," and the next, I think, are, "Two Hundred Pounds—J. H. Myrick, Deputy Inspector." I think this covers the whole brand.

Q. Then you are deputy inspector *de facto*, whether there is law for it or not?—A. I do not know what the law is about it; but I know that I have paid my fees to the inspector-general. We have had a running account with this man, and we have given him credit every year, on the settlement, for his fees. I do not know that we are compelled to pay such fees; but I know that these have been paid; that he has had credit for them in his account every year, I think. He calls for the returns and we give them to him.

Q. Do you make returns of your mackerel?—A. Yes; to the general inspector, when he calls, and he generally calls in the winter time.

Q. To this same gentleman?—A. Yes.

Q. The fish go in that way to Boston?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, in point of fact, are a good many of your mackerel reinspected and culled after they are sold in Boston?—A. Well, I do not know about that, but this may be the case; that is a pretty difficult question to answer. I hardly know whether this is the case or not, because I am not there except in winter, and I do not know whether they go through another inspection or not. This is not necessary, but it may be done. A dealer may buy 100 barrels of mackerel and then put them in half barrels, and in that way have them inspected, but I do not think that he culls them.

Q. Some evidence has been given here as to imported mackerel being thus gone over, culled, and reinspected, so as to make them more sal-

able and the average better than they are when they come in, in the foreign importation?—A. I do not think that this makes the mackerel more salable, but perhaps some dealer there may consider such barrels of mackerel, when number twos, good enough for number ones, and pack them in half barrels and then have them branded number ones.

Q. In Boston?—A. Yes. This may be done; I have no doubt that it is done.

Q. For the very best mackerel, what they call mess mackerel, the fattest and the best, how extensive is the market in the United States at high prices? How many barrels of mackerel, costing \$20 a barrel, and from that upward, would the United States market take?—A. It might take, I think, 6,000 or 8,000.

Q. No more?—A. At \$20 a barrel I should hardly think that more would be taken.

Q. What becomes of it?—A. Eight or ten years ago more might have been taken, because a dollar more a barrel was not then looked upon in the same light as at the present moment; but now that is not the case.

Q. Where do these high costing mackerel go?—A. To the cities chiefly, and hotels; some private families possibly take a few, but I do not think that a very large proportion of them are used in New England. I think that a good many go to Pennsylvania, to Philadelphia; and to New York City particularly.

Q. At high prices will the market take a large quantity of the common grades of mackerel, which are used not in the way of luxury, but for food?—A. This would depend somewhat on the catch of lake fish and herring; a good many are used South; and these come into competition, I suppose, with the herring fisheries. I should suppose that at the rate of \$7 or \$8 a barrel, the market would take a pretty good catch of mackerel, grades number twos and threes.

Q. At what point will the purchase on a large scale of common mackerel cease for consumption?—A. I should think that if the common grades of mackerel went in price above \$10 a barrel, it would go pretty hard if any considerable quantity of them was taken.

Q. When you go to Boston in winter are you in the habit of going about and making inquiries touching matters connected with your business?—A. Yes, almost daily.

Q. You do not then have a great deal of business to do?—A. No.

Q. What is it that fixes the price of mackerel in the United States market?—A. O, well, of course it is the supply and demand, as is the case with everything else. When there is a large catch of mackerel on the American shore, prices rule low; this is a very sensitive market. If a fleet of 500, 600, or 800 vessels are fishing for mackerel, and those interested get reports of the fleet doing anything, the market falls at once; and this is the case particularly when prices are any way inflated.

Q. Has there been anything to interfere, during the last few years, with the demand for salt mackerel? Has this been as great of late years as it was formerly?—A. The universal opinion among dealers in New York and Boston and other places is that the demand for salt mackerel has fallen off a great deal. Of course, the number of inhabitants is increasing very rapidly, but the demand for mackerel has not increased in that same ratio, and there must be some cause for it. Probably the catch of lake fish has interfered somewhat with this demand, and shipments of fresh fish by rail has been extending farther into the country, of late, besides.

Q. How far west are fresh fish sent?—A. They are dispatched as far west as any one travels, I think, from what I have understood.

Q. In what season of the year is the mackerel market most active?—

A. Well, my observation has been that during September and October and perhaps a part of August this is the case.

Q. How has it usually been of late years in winter?—A. Of late years it has been very quiet, much more so than was the case formerly.

Q. You have had a long acquaintance with the fishing of vessels and boats; have you known trouble to occur frequently between them or not?—A. Well, I have heard occasionally of vessels coming pretty near the boats, but the former very rarely ran foul of the latter; it has been several years since I have heard of any collisions of that kind, and any considerable complaint being made in this regard.

Q. How many complaints of that sort do you suppose you have heard during the 18 years you have been on Prince Edward Island?—A. Many opinions prevail on this point among the boat fishermen; some will say, when they see an American fleet coming, that this is going to hurt their fishing, while others say that it may help them, owing to the throwing over of a large quantity of bait, which may attract the fish to the spot; others again say that the throwing over of a large quantity of bait drives the fish away. A great variety of opinions exist in this respect, and it is hard to form a correct judgment on the subject.

Q. Have you known mackerel seining to be successful in the gulf?—A. No, not as a general thing. I have known vessels thus get a fare of fish, but, as a general thing, it has been a failure.

Q. What is the reason of this?—A. Well, I think one reason for it is due to the clearness of the water in the bay, and another is because the water where the mackerel frequent is shallow, and too shallow to admit of the use of the large seines which the fishermen are in the habit of using on the American shore; then again the character of the bottom in the bay—it is rapid and rocky—is such that it catches the seines.

Q. It has been stated here that they could adapt these seines to shallow water. What is your opinion on this point?—A. Well, I have heard that; but then again, I have heard it said that for mackerel, owing to its shyness, you want to be able to get a good way under them to thus bag them successfully; if they see the twine, they make a rush to get out from under it; that is the reason which numbers give for not trying their seines in the bay. These seines have been a great deal enlarged, and made larger and deeper in order to enable the fishermen to get around and under the schools without frightening and disturbing the fish.

Q. So these seines have grown longer and deeper instead of shorter and shallower?—A. Yes, a great deal. I do not know but that they now have reached their maximum.

Q. Is any considerable quantity of mackerel sold in the British Provinces?—A. In my experience, such sales have been pretty small. I have, however, sold a few in Canada.

Q. Have you tried the Dominion market?—A. I have sold a few fish, but not many in it. I have shipped fish here, and had them reshipped to the States via the lakes.

Q. You have found that they could not be sold here?—A. Yes.

Q. How far have you sent them in Canada?—A. As far as Montreal.

Q. No farther?—A. I do not remember of sending them any farther.

Q. Is there any market for fat mackerel, number ones and twos, except in the United States?—A. No; no considerable market; that is the market for mackerel, and particularly for fat mackerel. I suppose there is hardly a fraction of the whole catch that goes to any other market.

Q. Where do the poorest grades go?—A. These are used in the West Indies; but the fat mackerel do not answer for the West India market; it does not stand the voyage. I suppose that is the reason why they do not ship the best qualities there.

Q. Suppose that the catch of mackerel in British waters suddenly ceased, and that none were there caught for a period of five years, what would be the effect thus produced in the United States market?—A. Well, that would depend on how good a catch they would then have on the American shore.

Q. What would be the proportion?—A. I should suppose that the proportion of the supply which is caught in British waters would be, perhaps, one-fourth of the aggregate catch.

Q. That is inshore, off shore, and everywhere?—A. Yes; of the whole aggregate catch on the United States and Dominion coasts, perhaps one-quarter would be taken in British waters. Then, mackerel not being an indispensable article of food, I do not suppose that such cessation would have a very great effect; particularly in view of the fact that prices, in my opinion, could not be forced very high, even with a small catch.

Q. Which is the most important article of food in the United States, fresh or salt mackerel?—A. I should say, fresh mackerel decidedly; there is a larger consumption of them; but then there are seasons in the year, as in winter, when people can get poultry of all kinds and fresh meats, when they do not care much about these fish. This is the complaint which fish-dealers make in this respect; farmers in particular prefer to use their own products to paying high prices for fish.

Q. One witness told us that every American family put down a barrel of mackerel and a barrel of pork to live on during the winter; does that statement correspond with any opinion which you have on this subject?—A. I do not know as to how it may be outside of the limits of New England, but I think that very few New England families lay in a barrel of mackerel for consumption.

Q. Do you know what quantity of fish comes from the great lakes of the West?—A. I do not; I have heard the quantity stated quite differently, but I have no data to speak from in reference to this matter.

Q. Have you had anything to do with herring caught at the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes; we have had a good deal to do with them.

Q. What did you procure them for?—A. So far as I have obtained them, it has been chiefly for bait, but I think that a good many of these herring have been exported from Charlottetown to the West Indies and the States.

Q. Have you bought or caught them?—A. I have done both.

Q. Did you send your vessels to the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes; with the means both for catching and buying herring.

Q. At what rate can you usually have Magdalen Island herring delivered on Prince Edward Island?—A. Well, for \$1, or \$1.25 a barrel, without the barrel.

Q. Would the barrel be worth \$1?—A. The barrel and the salt for packing would be worth about \$1.

Q. At what price, furnishing the barrels, can you obtain these fish?—A. We then pay about \$1 for them.

Q. Do you furnish your own salt?—A. They are all salted.

Q. And you can thus get them for that price?—A. Yes.

Q. What would be the effect of a duty of \$1 a barrel on pickled herring, as to the possibility of their being sent from the Dominion to the United States market?—A. Well, if American vessels had no right to

catch them at the Magdalen Islands, this might not affect their sale; but if they then came into competition with what the American vessels caught, these fish could not be sent there.

Q. Would this amount be a prohibition duty, in this respect?—A. I should think so.

Q. How was the removal of the duties on mackerel and other fish, through the Washington Treaty, regarded by the inhabitants of Prince Edward Island?—A. As far as my observation went, they were very eager to have this treaty, in this regard, go into effect; they thought that this would build up their business, and be of great benefit to them.

Q. What effect, in your judgment, would a return of these duties have?—A. It would have a very bad effect unquestionably. It would hurt the fisheries there, because a great many of the fishermen, and the best fishermen we have now, would then at once go on board of American vessels, as they formerly did. A large number of the island fishermen formerly fished in American vessels; and a great many of them would under such circumstances go back, while they are now carrying on the boat fishery.

Q. In your boat-fishing you use herring more than pogies, because the former are cheaper than the latter?—A. Yes.

Q. Can vessel mackerel-fishing be successfully prosecuted without pogie bait?—A. I do not know but that it might; but they never use anything save pogies. As far as I have learned it is very rare when they do otherwise. I have in one or two instances heard skippers say that if they used herring, and a great deal more of them, perhaps they could get just as good trips as with pogies; but one might say that and a hundred might say the opposite.

Q. Have you the prices of mackerel with you?—A. I have them for a few years—perhaps for the past five or six years.

Q. What are they?—A. These are the net sales of mackerel in Boston market.

Q. Are they the actual result of your business derived from your books?—A. No; I cannot exactly say that. This is merely an estimate.

Q. Mention the prices.—A. In 1876, last year, the average net value of mackerel at the island was about \$9, as the result of sales in Boston.

Q. That is what you realized?—A. This is about what we realized for the catch.

Q. Give the other prices.—A. In 1875 we make it about \$11; in 1874, about \$7.25; and in 1873, about \$11.50.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Are these the average prices for all grades?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Continue the list.—A. In 1872 such price was about \$8, and in 1871 it was about \$4.10.

Q. What do you mean by net price?—A. This is the result after the bait, freight, duties, commissions, wharfage, and other expenses are settled.

Q. The barrels and salt excepted?—A. We do not take that. When we ship a barrel of mackerel it is all barreled up and ready for market.

Q. The mackerel catch of Prince Edward Island for last year, 1876, is estimated in the report of the Dominion commissioner of fisheries at 25,383 barrels, and the export of mackerel for the same year is estimated at 9,347½ barrels. Then, of course, 16,000 barrels must have been consumed at the island, if these figures are correct; and I want to know

how far this corresponds with your belief?—A. Well, I think that the figures for the exports are not accurate, because I believe that some mackerel were exported for which the figures have not found their way into the custom-house returns.

Q. What do you think that such exports from Prince Edward Island amounted to for 1876?—A. 11,000 or 12,000 barrels; I would not say that they exceeded 12,000.

Q. Are you confident about that?—A. I feel very confident about it, but I cannot speak positively in this respect.

Q. Explain what your opportunities for obtaining knowledge on that subject are?—A. Well, taking this matter one way, I judge from the number of boats which I have engaged in the mackerel fishery, and the number of boats which it is estimated is so engaged around the island. I take the average catch of the whole number of boats which it is estimated to fish about the island, and from this calculation I estimate that the exports of mackerel would not exceed 11,000 or 12,000 barrels.

Q. I notice that, in his report, the aggregate product of all the fisheries of Prince Edward Island is valued at \$494,967.08, and the total fish exports are valued at \$169,714, leaving for consumption on the island, fish to the value of \$225,253.08; what do you say to these figures for 1876?—A. The consumption of fish on the island, besides mackerel, is pretty large; the island people consume a large quantity of herring and a considerable quantity of codfish; but I should think that these figures are rather astray.

Q. How much are they astray, according to your best judgment? What do you say to the aggregate yield of the fisheries of Prince Edward Island for last year being valued at \$494,967.08?—A. From the best figures which I have been able to make, I should not think that it exceeded one-half of that amount.

Q. What do you say to the fish exports being valued at \$169,714?—A. Well, I do not know that this is far astray.

Q. Now as to prices; codfish in this report is valued at \$4.25 a hundred-weight?—A. Well, that is not very far out of the way. Cod were scarce and high last season, and that is about a fair figure.

Q. The yield of the island herring fishery is estimated at 14,866 barrels for last year; you say that there is a large consumption of herring on the island?—A. Yes; but they do not use much poor herring.

Q. These herring are valued at \$2.50 a barrel?—A. I should think that was a large estimate.

Q. Mackerel are valued at \$8 a barrel?—A. Well, that is not out of the way; the price is small enough.

Q. The yield of hake is estimated at 14,862 hundred-weight, valued at \$2.50?—A. That is about what the market price was on the island.

Q. The island yield of cod-tongues and sounds for last year is estimated at 594 barrels; what do you say to that?—A. That is evidently a mistake; I do not think that there were any produced or shipped there last year—that is, any to speak of.

Q. The yield of fish-oil is estimated at 16,487 gallons, valued at 65 cents a gallon?—A. The price is about 15 cents too high.

Q. It is entered that 2,590 gallons of fish-oil were exported, and 16,487 gallons produced?—A. That is too high a figure.

Q. Do they use 14,000 gallons of fish-oil on the island?—A. I do not think so; at any rate, so many gallons of oil as is there mentioned are not produced on the island, unless the figure is made up by importation from other places.

Q. The return of the number of fishermen on the island is given as

3,831; what do you say to that?—A. I do not know that this figure is out of the way. I did not suppose that there was quite so many, but this may be the case.

Q. According to those figures, each fisherman would get \$128 worth of fish a year; what do you say to that? I notice that they are not so prosperous as the fishermen of New Brunswick, who are stated to have made a catch of fish valued in all at \$1,953,088, and their number being 3,850, it seems that they would earn \$510 a head.—A. I should think that the figures for the island were pretty high; \$25 a month would be pretty good wages for fishermen there, for the season of four or four and a half months.

Q. What do you pay your fishermen?—A. I have men fishing in a variety of ways; but from the larger part of them I buy the fish fresh, paying them so much per hundred.

Q. That is for the men who fish in the larger portion of those 150 boats?—A. Yes. We own a few of the larger boats, and we receive for the use of these boats one-eighth of the catch, while they furnish their provisions and bait, and everything else they require, and we pay them so much per barrel for the fish when salted; then there are other boats from which we take the fish fresh and cure them, taking the fish round from the boats. These men find themselves, and we pay them so much per hundred for their fish through the season.

Q. How much do you pay them?—A. This season I paid them \$1.35 per hundred mackerel; from the commencement to the end of the season, I did so.

Q. For any kind of mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. That was fit to pack?—A. Yes; and I found the bait and boat.

Q. Did you find everything?—A. Yes; provisions excepted. I found the bait and boat, and paid them that amount.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. How much did you pay when the men owned their boats?—A. Where they owned their own boats—these are mostly small and of moderate value—I paid them \$10 or \$12 a year extra for the use of their boats, but I have very few men of that description.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. But still you paid them the same price as the others for their mackerel?—A. Yes; we allowed them that amount for the use of their boats for the season.

Q. How many mackerel are there to a barrel?—A. They will average this year about 280, I should say; perhaps the number would be 260 or 280.

Q. Would the extreme points be 200 and 300 a barrel?—A. No; the highest number would be 350; this is for early mackerel when they are poor.

Q. And how many would there be of the biggest mackerel?—A. Not over a hundred.

Q. This would be of the very best?—A. Yes.

Q. The biggest average catch would be 240 or 250 to the barrel?—A. Yes; or 260.

Q. How good an average catch of mackerel can your fishermen and the fishermen of Prince Edward Island make?—A. There is a great difference in fishermen; some will make double the catch that others will at the same stage; some boats will earn double what others will make; some men understand the catching of the fish or the baiting of them better than others; for this or some other reason, at any rate, they

will catch many more fish than others; but the best men will perhaps earn \$125 or \$130, while the lowest amount thus earned will be perhaps \$75 a season.

Q. Is this when they are furnished with boats?—A. Yes, and with bait, being subject to no expense save that of feeding themselves, and they live very cheaply.

Q. How long would be the fishing season during which they would earn \$125 or \$130?—A. Four or four and a half months.

Q. Is there any winter employment on the island?—A. O, yes; a great many of the younger men leave the island in winter, and go over to Mirimichi, N. B., and work in the woods, spending the winter there and returning in the spring. Quite a number do so.

Q. If they stay on the island, can they earn wages in the winter?—A. A great many of these fishermen have farms, and in winter some get out firewood while others get out cooperage-stock, hoop poles, and staves. They find something to do in winter, but they do not earn a great deal. Most of them have farms—some small ones and some large ones.

Q. What do you say about the value of mackerel swimming, where they are thickest?—A. I do not think that my head is clear enough to answer that question.

Q. Have you ever known any place where the fishermen as a class get more than a bare ordinary living on the average?—A. Some of our fishermen are very well off; but then they have farms right adjoining the fishing grounds.

Q. How good a chance have you where you are located of seeing the boats and vessels engaged in fishing?—A. I am there all the time, for four or five months, and I have an opportunity of seeing them daily from the time that I get up until dark; I might constantly look off on the water during the day from where I am.

Q. Could any one with a pair of eyes have more constant opportunity of seeing the whole thing than you have for 30 miles' distance?—A. I do not think that any one has a better opportunity than myself for seeing what is going on on the water for the four or five months that I am there.

Q. I understand you to say that if the duty on mackerel was reimposed in the United States, your firm would, except for a small portion of the season, give up the mackerel business, and turn your attention to something else?—A. That is my opinion decidedly.

Q. If you could get rid of your property what would you do in that event?—A. If I could get rid of it at anything like reasonably fair value, I should then put it into the market, and go into something else.

Q. If you were going to carry on the mackerel fishery in vessels from Prince Edward Island, would you resort to the United States coasts at all; and, if so, why, and how?—A. Well, I think I should then be in favor, for a portion of the year at any rate, of trying the fishing on the American coast, that is, if we could get captains and crews that would like to follow that business; and I suppose that a great many of them would do so.

Q. Do you mean with hooks and lines, or with seines, or with both?—A. I do not know so much about it as to say. I should want to study up this question before deciding on that point, because I think that seining is getting rather played out, so they say.

Q. You think that it is?—A. I think they have had pretty near enough of it, and I do not know how profitable it would be to prosecute hook and line fishing there.

Q. Here is an account of a Portland schooner which got 1,265 barrels seining this year.—A. Yes; but I think that is an exception. I do not think that you would find a great many catches of that kind.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. You know all about the quality of the fish taken on the American coast? You are well acquainted with this subject?—A. Generally speaking, yes.

Q. What proportion does the best quality of fish taken there bear to the poorer ones?—A. Well, this season, of the best quality, as I understand it, scarcely any have been taken; on that shore there has been a very small catch of very good mackerel this year; but this varies very materially different years. You will see by the reports of the inspectors, or by their returns, that a very large catch of number ones will have been taken one year, while perhaps the next year the catch may run very largely of number threes. The quality of the catch varies almost every year.

Q. We are told that the first caught early in the season, both off the American coast and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, are poor?—A. O, yes; they are always poor in the spring, and then they gradually fatten up. Some seasons they fatten up more rapidly than they do during other seasons. Some seasons good mackerel are caught in July and August, and in other seasons this is not the case.

Q. Is the greater quantity of the fish that comes to market of the inferior or of the best qualities?—A. As I told you, this varies very much. Some years the larger quantity will consist of the best qualities, and other years, perhaps the very next season, it will be the direct reverse.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Whereabouts on the American coast have the best mackerel been found?—A. Well, I see by the reports of this season that this has been at Block Island, and last year this was also the case, I think.

Q. For a few years past, which have sold for the highest price—number ones from the bay or number ones from the American shore?—A. O, their shore mackerel have been the best quality of fish.

Q. Some one the other day produced a Boston paper of recent date, in which Prince Edward Island mackerel—some of yours, I suppose?—A. Very likely.

Q. Were quoted higher than number ones shore mackerel; what does that mean?—A. This is because they have caught very few mackerel of good quality on the American shore this season, but I am not speaking about this season, but of other years; perhaps in that same paper, a few weeks ago, Block Island mackerel were quoted a good deal higher than bay mackerel; but this season has been rather an exception to the ordinary rule, and they have caught poor mackerel on the American shore, as I have understood.

Q. When is the time for the best catch over on the United States shore?—A. I think that it is over now, though they may get some good catches yet; but this is hardly to be expected.

Q. And the season is over in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Yes, substantially so.

Q. Of course, the spring mackerel are thin and poor wherever they are caught?—A. Yes.

Q. And very many more of them are caught off the United States coast than in the gulf?—A. Yes; they catch mackerel earlier there. A

large catch of mackerel is taken south before we have them in the bay at all.

Q. I suppose that the season during which there is mackerel-fishing both in the gulf and on the United States shore extends from the last of June until the middle of October?—A. They commence fishing in the bay about the 20th of June, I should say.

Q. When it extends from the 20th of June to the middle of October, how does the quality of the catch in the gulf compare with the quality of the catch off the United States coast for the same months from year to year?—A. Well, during the last five or six years, I think the best quality has been taken, I think, on the American shore, but I have known it to be right the reverse, and the very best mackerel to be taken in the bay.

Q. Where do the best mackerel in the bay come from?—A. Well, I do not think that the mackerel taken at the different places vary much in quality; sometimes the best mackerel are taken at the Magdalen Islands, and sometimes they are got around the island; and sometimes away up about Gaspé the very best mackerel are obtained; and sometimes this is the case farther north.

Q. When you speak of round the island, do you mean within three miles of land, or farther out?—A. O, well, I do not know that I had either in view; speaking as a general thing, the larger mackerel are taken farther away from the shore.

Q. The collector at Port Mulgrave, in one of his returns for 1875, says that "the most of these mackerel"—that is, the mackerel he speaks of as having been caught by 164 American vessels—"were caught about Prince Edward Island, that is the smaller-sized mackerel; but the best and largest were caught at the Magdalen Islands"?—A. Well, I know that one year, and perhaps more than one year, and during several years, I have heard it said by fish-dealers at Boston and other places that they got the better quality of mackerel from the Magdalen Islands.

Q. I see that you are not going to run down Prince Edward Island mackerel?—A. No.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. I have understood that the mackerel as they grow fat in the autumn leave the northeastern part of the gulf and go down through the Gut of Canso, and around the other side, and pass along to the southward, and are to be found off Cape Cod and other parts of the American coast for a short time in November and the latter part of October in the very best condition; is that so?—A. I have heard that stated, and I have known them to be taken around Cape Cod late in the season, and even later than the middle of November; but after November, and after the water begins to get cold there, they begin to get thin.

Q. They then get thin again?—A. Yes.

Q. And those that come down from here and get there by the middle of October have been reported as being remarkably good, and up to the 1st of November the fish are remarkably good; and then, for that class of fish, the market is not over in the United States?—A. Well, it is not then over every year.

Q. In the middle of October?—A. They get them there in nets, not so much with hooks. I don't think the mackerel take the hook. Many are of the opinion that they are not the same kind of mackerel but a different species. I have heard so.

Q. Some think the mackerel have been fattened up in the bay and come down, and others think it is not so. But at all events your mack

erel, so far as you have heard of the catch, have not increased?—A. They have not.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. Practically the fishing off the American coast for the season is now over?—A. I think so.

Q. There will be nothing more of any moment caught to affect the mackerel?—A. I should hardly think so. There has been such a thing, but as a general thing we don't look for mackerel after the middle of October.

Q. This year has been better than the average of years at the island?—A. I think it has.

Q. Has it not been a very excellent year?—A. I think that, considering the prices they have got and the quantity taken, it has been a very excellent year.

Q. As regards the quality of the fish taken, what is the quality of the fish taken at the island this year?—A. The quality of the fish has been poor. A very small proportion of the catch has been very good indeed; the rest has been poor, very poor.

Q. Can you tell me what price you obtained for your mackerel this year?—A. The prices in Boston in greenbacks are for 3's from \$9 to \$9.50; 2's, from \$12.50 to \$13; for 1's, so far as I have returns, from \$16 to \$18.

Q. Are you selling at those prices or holding for higher?—A. We are selling as fast as we can get them into the market.

Q. I suppose you find no difficulty in disposing of mackerel?—A. No. 1's go very hard. Early in the summer they were going pretty freely. The better grades of mackerel have gone very fairly, in consequence of the poor quality of the mackerel caught on the American shore.

Q. You say the mackerel market is a very sensitive market?—A. Yes.

Q. It is regulated almost entirely by the supply, of course?—A. Yes.

Q. If there is a large catch prices fall; and if a small quality of catch prices go up?—A. That is the fact. What I mean by a sensitive market is this: There is a large fishing fleet, and of course the dealers are watching the fleet very closely to see what the vessels are doing, and if the reports are that they are catching mackerel the dealers will not buy more than they can sell to-day, and if there is much stock in the market it will have to be held. That is what I mean by a sensitive market.

Q. Then every year when the mackerel season is about half over the dealers find out what the catch has been and is likely to be, and the prices are regulated by the conclusion they arrive at. For instance, if the fleet have taken nothing half the season, and are not likely to catch many more, the prices will go up?—A. The dealers, I think, carry on the business differently from what they did ten or fifteen years ago. I don't think as a general thing they stock up anything like what they formerly did. I think they buy more from day to day. That is, I think their experience for the last five or six or six or eight years has been that it has been a losing business to stock up and carry mackerel.

Q. Taking the whole American catch, with the exception of those taken at Block Island, do you mean to say that Prince Edward Island mackerel do not compare favorably with them?—A. This year they do compare favorably.

Q. More than favorably?—A. More than favorably. What I mean to say is, that No. 1 mackerel caught on the American shore are very much preferred to mackerel caught in the bay. They are of a different species, apparently, to the bay mackerel, and they are whiter, cleaner,

and fatter fish. There are some localities where they won't buy bay mackerel at all if they know it. That is in the State of Pennsylvania. I heard a large dealer in New York say that his customers in Pennsylvania would not buy bay mackerel if they could get any other; in fact would not buy them at all.

Q. They prefer this different species?—A. It is a better fish. It is a better, whiter, and fatter fish.

Q. Your opinion is that it is not the same species as the bay mackerel?—A. I have almost come to that conclusion. I am rather inclined to think it is a different species of fish.

Q. You have examined them. What is the result of your examination? Would you say it is a different species?—A. I should think so. One is larger than the other, and a whiter fish; what they feed on may make the difference.

Q. If mackerel came down from the bay and staid two or three days on the American shore, would they change in that way?—A. I doubt very much whether they do that.

Q. Have you got any stages on the west side, from North Cape down to Miminegash?—A. None at Miminegash. Two on that side of what we call the Reef and two along the coast.

Q. The fishing at Miminegash is said to be very good this year?—A. Yes; particularly around Miminegash.

Q. There is a place sometimes called by the name French Village?—A. Yes.

Q. It has been very good there?—A. Not so good there as further west at Miminegash. It has been very good there, and it has been very fair further along.

Q. How has it been all around Cascumpeque?—A. It has been very poor comparatively.

Q. Your personal knowledge extends to that part of the island only; you never fished at East Point?—A. No.

Q. You know nothing about the eastern end of the island?—A. No.

Q. Nor about the mode of fishing there?—A. No; only from hearsay.

Q. With regard to shore fishing. Where do your boats fish as a rule? Where is the bulk of the mackerel taken by boats?—A. I think on the side my store is on, off the east side of the island; that is, near North Cape; one-half of them are taken outside of three miles. On the other shore, I think more are caught within three miles. At Miminegash particularly the fish are very near.

Q. Are any taken outside?—A. Yes.

Q. Do small boats go out beyond three miles?—A. Yes; they do very frequently; but it varies in different years. The season of what we call the great catch, in 1874, I think the mackerel were caught close to the shore then as a general thing.

Q. Have you noticed if, during the last sixteen years, mackerel have been found closer to the shore than in 1855 and 1856?—A. Well, no; I think this year they have not been.

Q. During the last few years has there not been a tendency that way?—A. I don't know but that there has. I should rather think there has been.

Q. That is the opinion of most of the fishermen?—A. Yes; I should say so.

Q. You have noticed it sensibly so, I suppose?—A. Well, I don't know that I should have noticed it without my attention having been called to it.

Q. Now that your attention has been called to it, do you say so?—A. I should say we catch more fish inside than we did five, six, or eight years ago.

Q. You don't know how far off shore the fish are taken at other parts of the island?—A. I only judge from what I have heard.

Q. It is necessary in order to insure a fair catch to go inside with boats?—A. Yes; I suppose so.

Q. You would not like to carry on fishing and be excluded from coming within the three-mile limit?—A. I should not.

Q. You would abandon it at once?—A. Yes, I think so; that is, boat-fishing particularly.

Q. Has the Lettie been out fishing this year?—A. Yes.

Q. How many barrels has she taken?—A. At last accounts about 300 barrels altogether. She landed 175 packed barrels on the first trip, and she was reported three weeks ago with 100 barrels. So I should say altogether about 300 barrels. That is rather—considerably above the average.

Q. Would you prosecute the fishing in the bay if you were prohibited from coming within three miles of the shore to fish?—A. I don't think I would.

Q. Have you any doubt about it?—A. I don't think I would. That is if I was compelled to come here. I might go to the Magdalen Islands if I had a right there.

Q. Suppose you could go to Magdalen Islands, and were excluded from three miles of the shore everywhere else in the bay?—A. I don't know, but I might try it, if forced to prosecute the fishery in the bay. It does not take long to change berths.

Q. Suppose you were excluded from changing your berth and were kept off shore?—A. I would not want to carry it on. If I had vessels fishing on the American shore and found slim fishing there, it would not take long for them to come down to Magdalen Islands, try there, and go back again. Perhaps two weeks.

Q. Would you, under those circumstances, prosecute the bay fishery as a bay fishery, sending vessels there year after year to remain the season, and depending on it for the season's work?—A. I don't think I would.

Q. Have you seen any large fleets of American vessels at your end of the island?—A. I have.

Q. What is the largest number you have seen?—A. I could not undertake to speak with accuracy, but I should say from 150 to 200 sail.

Q. At one time?—A. I think I have seen 150 vessels at one time.

Q. Did they fish by coming in and drifting off?—A. That is the practice. Of course wherever they find the fish they go, but if they found them near the land they would not undertake to fish in that way with an inshore wind. If there is a moderate wind off shore they come in, throw bait, and drift off, and work back again.

Q. You have seen them fishing in and out of the limits?—A. Yes.

Q. Often?—A. Yes. There have not been many vessels there for the last two or three years, but previous to that I used to see them quite frequently.

Q. In fleets?—A. Yes, 30 or 40 sail.

Q. Day after day during the season?—A. I never saw them remain there a great while—perhaps one or two days. I don't remember them remaining over two days in succession.

Q. Then they would return again?—A. Then they would go, perhaps

to the other side of the island and keep going round the island, or perhaps go to Magdalen Islands or Bay Chaleurs or Escuminac.

Q. Would they come back again that season?—A. Very likely. They keep cruising round all the time, as a general thing. If they go to Magdalen Islands and have good fishing they hang round there.

Q. It is essential to the success of the vessels that they have the right to go wherever the mackerel are?—A. To make it successful I should say so.

Q. You were asked some questions with regard to the exports of the island and the provisions consumed and you said you thought they were much exaggerated. What means have you of forming an estimate of the catch of mackerel, say in Kings County?—A. It was in 1876 we were examining, I think. I know very nearly the number of barrels I caught and what I exported.

Q. I am not questioning your own catch; I am speaking with regard to the catch of the island. What means have you of knowing what mackerel, cod, or other fish were caught by the people of King's County, for instance?—A. I have not any means of giving an accurate statement.

Q. Were you there that year?—A. Yes.

Q. In King's County?—A. I was there but not for the purpose of making any special inquiries. The only knowledge I have is from what I heard and what I could gather as to the number of barrels the different localities had taken. I cannot say I give it accurately, but I approximate it to the best of my judgment.

Q. In that judgment you may be astray?—A. Yes, I may be astray.

Q. You made a guess at it, judging it from your own business?—A. I did very much so, and from what I could hear.

Q. Do you know that there are fishery officers at Prince Edward Island, and have been since confederation?—A. Yes.

Q. Take Mr. Samuel Clark, fishery officer of Prince County; is he a respectable man?—A. Yes; very much so.

Q. A man on whose judgment you could place some confidence?—A. In farming matters, yes; not in fishing matters.

Q. A man in whose veracity and integrity you would place confidence?—A. Yes.

Q. He stands very high in the county?—A. Yes; and is very much respected.

Q. Do you know that he made it his business to inquire at the different establishments what their catches were?—A. I don't know that he did. I don't know that he ever inquired at my place. He might have asked some of my men.

Q. He might have asked some of your head men?—A. Yes.

Q. He would not willfully put down anything that he knew to be wrong?—A. I should not suppose so.

Q. He is not a man to do so?—A. No.

Q. In 1876 the exports are put down as of the value of \$169,000?—A. Yes.

Q. That is probably below the mark, is it not?—A. I should think it was not above the mark.

Q. Quantities of fish leave the island, go to Shediac, and are shipped from there without being entered?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know that as a matter of fact?—A. They always clear out the custom-house, but whether those quantities go into the returns at Charlottetown I don't know. We generally take clearances at Tignish, and sometimes when the vessels are half or three quarters loaded, and

a wind springs up, they have to go, and they are as liable to run into Shediac as elsewhere and land their cargoes.

Q. Those cargoes do not appear in the returns?—A. I should be inclined to think they do not.

Q. You have stated that the people of the island consume large quantities of fish?—A. I should judge they consume very little mackerel.

Q. You have no means of knowing accurately?—A. No.

Q. They live largely upon fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you examined the census to see how many families there are on the island?—A. I should make a rough guess at 20,000.

Q. When you say this is an exaggeration, it is a rough figure?—A. Not altogether. I know pretty nearly my own catch, and also what is caught round that end of the island.

Q. I am not speaking of the catch?—A. You have to get the catch to get the consumption. In knowing what my own place takes I have some better knowledge as to what the whole island takes than a person who knows nothing at all about it.

Q. How many families do you say there are?—A. 20,000; I don't know that that statement is correct, for they are pretty large families generally. There ought to be that number with a population of one hundred thousand.

Q. What quantity of fish of all kinds do they consume per family?—A. They largely consume herring if they can get it. If they can get herring they don't care much about any other fish. All of our fishermen—and there are a good many of them—pick up a few codfish and carry home, and it amounts in the aggregate to a considerable quantity. I took that into account when I made my estimate. As a general thing they use herring.

Q. But you are not prepared to say how much, or about how much, each family uses of all kinds of fish?—A. No.

Q. I want to know how you get at your estimate?—A. I get at it from estimating what my own boats catch, and estimating the catch of the island from that.

Q. Those prices which you give for the years, from 1871 to 1875, are they not cash receipts which you put into your pocket after paying all expenses?—A. I make that as an estimate; that is not the exact figure. I only gave it considerable thought between yesterday and to-day.

Q. You have a branch of your business at Boston?—A. We have had.

Q. You carried on business there and sold fish?—A. Yes.

Q. You bought fish on the island largely, and sold them there too?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you examined the statistics of the United States with a view to ascertaining how many mackerel are taken on their shores?—A. I have every year obtained the returns of the inspector-general of Massachusetts.

Q. About how many are taken?—A. I should say, on an average, the Massachusetts inspection would average, perhaps, 234,000 or 240,000 barrels.

Q. Fish taken by American vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Altogether everywhere?—A. Inspected in the State of Massachusetts. That is the total catch of Massachusetts vessels, and perhaps some vessels from Maine which come there and pack out. Those are what are packed out by vessels in every district of Massachusetts.

Q. The mackerel fishing is in Massachusetts chiefly?—A. It is the leading State for mackerel fishing.

Q. What other statistics did you examine?—A. Not those of any other State.

Q. Does that return give you the quantity taken by those vessels on the American shore and the quantity taken on the British shore?—A. There is no distinction made; they are all put together.

Q. When you said that one quarter of the aggregate catch was taken in British waters, what did you mean?—A. I mean by that, that if the whole catch of mackerel in the State of Maine and Massachusetts amounts to 280,000 barrels, and you add the Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island catch, which might amount to 40,000 or 50,000 barrels, that would be 330,000. I took one-fourth of that. It is merely an estimate.

Q. You don't know what proportion of the fish are taken in British and what in American waters?—A. I can tell when a very small fleet comes into British waters and has poor success, that it will not add largely to the aggregate quantity.

Q. You understand me to be speaking of the whole gulf and not of the three-mile limit?—A. I understand.

Q. When you say that one-fourth only of the aggregate catch is taken in British waters did you mean to include the catch taken by British people, or did you mean that the Americans themselves catch one-fourth on our shores?—A. I mean to say that aside from what are caught by American vessels, what are caught at Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, which are the two principal places where mackerel are taken by their own people, amount as near as I can estimate without going into figures, to one-fourth of the gross aggregate catch.

Q. There is a little point regarding which I wish to put myself right before the Commission. I stated the other day here that there was no inspector of fish on Prince Edward Island. Now, have you paid any inspector for the last two or three years since confederation?—A. I am very certain that every year I paid the inspection fee to the general inspector of Prince County.

Q. Since confederation?—A. Yes. I talked the matter over this season with my bookkeeper as to whether it was best to pay that again, and he concluded it was.

Q. It enabled you to send your fish into Massachusetts. You are deputy inspector and you put your brand on your mackerel as such, and it is a benefit in that way to you?—A. I consider it so.

Q. If it was not a benefit you would not continue it?—A. I do not think it is worth while to disturb the thing at all. I never saw that he was very reluctant to receive his fees.

Q. From your knowledge of the people of the United States and those engaged in fishing, are they anxious to have the right to fish in our waters—are the people greatly anxious to have it?—A. I don't know what the feeling is at the present time, but in former years, from conversations that I have had with them, I should say that they were anxious to have the right of fishing here, particularly those having expensive vessels here. They want full range of the whole waters of the Dominion, and, of course, those who own expensive vessels do not want them to be disturbed by cutters.

Q. It was looked upon as a valuable privilege—the right to come into the gulf and fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Near the shores?—A. Yes. There was a great difference of opinion among fishermen and among skippers of vessels about it; some did not seem to care much about it and some did.

Q. That accounts for the fact that some of the witnesses have said

that they caught fish around Prince Edward Island and some did not?—A. A good many men fishing in American vessels, perhaps, were natives of the island, or natives of Nova Scotia, and familiar with those shores. Of course, those would fish where perhaps others, such as Cape Cod vessels, would not, for they did not care so much to come into the vicinity of the land.

Q. The island skippers would come close to the shores of the island, while others would keep out?—A. Yes; those who were familiar with all the harbors and bays round the island, particularly those familiar with the harbors, for they would want to make for the harbors in a gale of wind. Those familiar with the harbors would not hesitate to fish round the shores, but a great many would hardly care to fish round the bend of the island at all.

Q. Those not acquainted with the place?—A. Yes.

Q. You have never fished at Magdalen Island yourself?—A. No.

Q. You confine your operations to Prince Edward Island?—A. Yes.

Q. Your fishing stages are round the island?—A. Yes.

Q. You prefer to remain there?—A. That is where the outlay has been made, and I would not care to extend it.

Q. You would not care to go to Magdalen Islands and start business there?—A. I would not. I don't, however, pretend to know anything about Magdalen Islands. It may be a better place to fish, but any one who has made a large investment at a certain place would not care to extend it or change it. It takes a large amount of capital to get an extensive fishery started. You have to have a good many buildings, grounds, and wharves, and other accessories to make it a success.

Q. You were speaking about the effect of the United States imposing a duty on herring. The United States market is not the sole market for herring?—A. No; by no means, though it is a very large market.

Q. So if they did impose a duty amounting to prohibition they would themselves suffer as much as anybody else?—A. It would not destroy the fishing altogether, of course. It is very desirable, however, to have all the market you can get for your fish.

Q. And it is very desirable for the consumer to have all the fish coming in that he requires?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the price of pogies?—A. I think about an average price would be from \$4 to \$5 a barrel.

Q. Where; at the island?—A. In Boston.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. What are pogies worth in the island?—A. The cost to bring them by steamer would be about 50 cents a barrel. If they charged for them \$5 in Boston they would cost \$5.50 landed at Charlottetown.

Q. Suppose the three-mile line marked out by a line of buoys so that every one could see when he was in and when out, and there was no danger of molestation outside, how important do you think United States fishermen would regard it?—A. Well, I cannot say. I should suppose they would, of course, attach some importance to the privilege of coming inshore, but I don't think that it would stop their prosecuting the fisheries in the gulf.

Q. What was the real thing that made our people anxious about this? for you know. What was the real trouble that made them anxious about the removal of the restriction?—A. Well, they want to come here without the expense of a license, and want to be free from annoyance from cutters, and, of course, they want to go where they please. They don't want to be restricted. If they find mackerel at any place, they want the privilege of catching them.

Q. Do you think the United States mackerel fleet could afford to pay a license-fee of \$2 a ton, which was asked in the year 1868?—A. I should not suppose they could.

Q. As a matter of money, was it worth that?—A. I should not think it would be.

Q. When the license-fee was fifty cents a ton, did they nearly all pay it?—A. I think they did.

Q. And when it was \$1 per ton?—A. I think some paid it.

Q. And when it was \$2 per ton?—A. I think they generally took the risk, or else kept out to sea and did not frequent the limits.

Q. Then, in your judgment, \$2 per ton is a higher tariff than the privilege is worth in money?—A. Most distinctly it is, taking the three last years as a criterion.

Q. Go back to the years when it was put on.—A. I should say, to give my own opinion, it would be prohibitory, even taking the whole range of the years; but for the three last years there has been scarcely a vessel that has made any money, though having free access to all the shores and bays.

Q. Now, if a man's vessel got seized, how much difference would it make whether it was seized rightly or wrongly?—A. If seized and detained for any time, it breaks up the voyage and the men would leave, and it would be a great disaster to the owner in every way.

Q. If he had every advantage?—A. If everything was favorable.

Q. And supposing litigation in the admiralty courts of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick was not costly?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know about the sale of fresh fish in Charlottetown; your firm sells it?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know how much mackerel they sell?—A. Not personally. I am told the amount is very small, except fresh mackerel—they sell a good many fresh.

Q. You were asked whether you would come to the gulf on mackerel fishing exclusively, if you were excluded from the three-mile limits? Suppose you were located in the United States, and had the benefit of fishing on the United States shore, would you send a mackerel schooner down here?—A. I do not think so, from my personal knowledge of the matter.

Q. Your firm is established here, with a property that cannot be removed?—A. It cannot be removed. It is a large investment—the accumulation of many years.

Q. Are not United States mackerel schooners generally abandoning the gulf fishery?—A. It would seem so from the experience of the last few years; but they may take hold again. If mackerel should appear in large quantities in the gulf, and there was a scarcity at home, they would come here again.

Q. Wherever there is a chance to make money, there enterprise will be of course.—A. There have been seasons and sections of seasons perhaps years ago when mackerel were scarce and they made very poor voyages.

Q. You spoke of the statistics of the quantity of mackerel inspected. In Massachusetts there are accurate statistics of the number of barrels of mackerel inspected?—A. They are supposed to be correct. Each deputy inspector makes a return once a year.

Q. And that embraces all the salt mackerel that comes in in United States vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. It also includes, does it not, all mackerel imported from the prov-

inces which chances to be reinspected?—A. I am not certain whether that covers reinspected mackerel or not, but I think it does.

Q. The statistics of Maine are in pretty poor shape, I believe?—A. I don't know much about them. I only approximate to the catch of Maine.

Q. I want to see what your estimate was—how many barrels. The quantity varies greatly from year to year?—A. Yes.

Q. Immensely?—A. Yes.

Q. So it is a difficult thing to make an average of?—A. Yes; one year it was as low as 100,000 barrels, and another as high as 340,000 barrels.

Q. What was the average?—A. I think I said 240,000 or 250,000 barrels.

Q. What did you estimate that to be—the quantity inspected in Massachusetts?—A. The Massachusetts inspection.

Q. Then there would be the Maine inspection?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you estimate that?—A. Maine has been falling off greatly for the last 10 or 15 years, and they have carried on the business much less extensively than formerly. A great many Maine vessels make their headquarters at Boston and pack out there.

Q. The whole business is centering in Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. And other fishing towns are dying out?—A. Yes; the Maine towns particularly have been dying for 20 years.

Q. So that the salt-mackerel business is concentrating in Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. You say that 225,000 or 230,000 is the Massachusetts inspection; I don't know whether you could hazard an estimate for Maine?—A. I could not.

Q. You know, generally, whether it is 10,000 or 50,000 barrels?—A. It would be more than 10,000 barrels; Portland alone would be more than 10,000. I would sooner say it would be 40,000 or 50,000 barrels.

Q. Those quantities together make 270,000 or 275,000 barrels. In addition to those there is what comes from the provinces, the British catch; what do you estimate the British catch to be?—A. The average British catch?

Q. Yes.—A. I should say from 70,000 to 80,000 barrels.

Q. And of that how much comes to the States?—A. I should say more than three-fourths.

Q. To what port does that chiefly come?—A. Boston takes, I think, the greater portion; New York, of late years, has taken more than formerly.

Q. Can you make an estimate of the quantity taken by New York?—A. No; but I know a good many more go to New York than formerly.

Q. Those are about the only places?—A. Yes; I don't know but that some go to Philadelphia—not a great many.

Q. You were asked with regard to your knowledge as to the quantity of fish consumed upon the island; Mr. Howland is the gentleman who makes up statistics there?—A. I cannot say.

Q. He estimates, I see, on page 77 of the British evidence, that there are 15 per cent. of the mackerel sold to go off the island that do not get into the exports; so his estimate would be that there are \$92,000 worth of mackerel that goes off the island. What do you say to that?—A. He makes that up for one year, does he not?

Q. Yes. He was going on the basis of 1876, and was correcting official statistics?—A. I should think that was not very much out of the way.

Q. Then his estimate is that 25 per cent. of that amount would be consumed on the island—one-fourth of \$92,000?—A. I think he is there very much astray.

Q. His estimate is that one-fourth, which is \$23,000, would be consumed on the island?—A. I think he is very much out.

Q. You don't think the people of the island eat \$23,000 worth?—A. Not of mackerel. They eat very few mackerel; they eat more largely of other fish.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Some of the witnesses, who have been captains of American vessels, have said they caught nearly three-fourths, some one-half, others one-fifth and one-eighth of their fish within three miles of the shore in the gulf. You spoke, in answer to Mr. Foster, about the \$2 duty per ton being so large they could not pay it to go inside. As a matter of fact, at the time when they did not take out licenses, did they not poach on the preserves and come in and run the risk?—A. Some vessels did, some did not.

Q. Because I find that for a vessel of 60 tons, at \$2 per ton, the amount would only be \$120, and 10 barrels of mackerel at \$12 a barrel would cover that.—A. But if they were just making both ends meet, \$120 would turn the scale.

Q. I have not found any witness who did not acknowledge he caught some inside.—A. I am speaking in general terms. They would take that cost into account in making up the voyage for the vessel, and that might very readily turn the scale. The owners might discuss the question whether they would send the vessel to the bay or on their own shores, and when they put down \$120 that might determine the trip.

Q. You don't know the proportion of the fleet that ran the risk?—A. I have not any means of knowing.

Q. I think I understand you to say that catching mackerel by seining injures the fishing?—A. That is my opinion. Some other witness would be able to give better evidence on that point. I can only say so from hearsay.

By Mr. Kellogg:

Q. You have had experience in the fishing business in the Provinces and also in Boston. It is said frequently that mackerel will bring only a certain price in the American market, and that if they exceed a certain price the people resort to other kinds for food. Have you in your experience discovered whether they were any other kinds of fish food they resorted to, particularly when mackerel were a high price; and if so, what kinds of fish are they?—A. The lake fish of late years have been taken in large quantities and have supplied the markets to some extent. A large amount of territory is covered by them, and a great many like them and give them the preference.

Q. Any other kinds of sea fish?—A. They use largely fresh fish now. For instance, frozen herring are taken in very large quantities from Newfoundland and the Bay of Fundy.

Q. What I want to know is this; if, when mackerel are at a certain price, the people resort to other kinds of food that are cheaper?—A. Yes.

Q. In regard to the market for fresh mackerel; when did that market begin to expand, the fish going from the sea shore by the railways over the country?—A. It has been growing very rapidly for the last 12 or 15 years, say for the last 12 years.

Q. Is it now growing or not?—A. I think it is growing.

Q. How far do fresh mackerel go?—A. I don't know there is any limit.

Q. Do you know of any fresh mackerel being carried to California from our side?—A. I should think not. I don't know but they might carry it.

Q. They send lobsters canned?—A. And they send fresh salmon in cans from California here.

Q. According to your experience, how far up and down the Mississippi Valley does the fresh fish go?—A. It goes to Chicago and Milwaukee and other Western points.

Q. You have been engaged in the mackerel and cod-fishing at Prince Edward Island for a good many years, and you are located there. Have you ever attempted to cure codfish in the way they are cured for foreign markets, for warm climates, such as the West Indies?—A. I cure codfish almost exclusively for foreign markets in warm climates.

Q. Is that done very extensively by any except what are called Jersey-men?—A. It is.

Q. Have you always done it?—A. I have done it for 12 or 15 years.

Q. And always exported to foreign markets?—A. Yes, almost always.

Q. Did you ever find a market for that kind of cured fish in the United States?—A. For the large fish we do.

Q. Cured in that way?—A. Yes; for the large fish, but it is a small proportion of them.

No. 66.

CHRESTEN NELSON, of Gloucester, Mass., fisherman and sailmaker, was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. What is your age?—Answer. 52 years.

Q. You are a native of what country?—A. Denmark.

Q. You now live at Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. And have done so for how many years?—A. For about 30 years.

Q. Do you recollect what was the first year you went into the gulf fishing?—A. 1851.

Q. Did you go cod-fishing part of the season?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you went into the gulf?—A. Yes.

Q. How many trips did you make that year?—A. Two.

Q. What did you catch the first trip?—A. The first trip we caught 300 barrels and the second 325.

Q. Did you catch those outside or inside?—A. The first trip we caught them entirely out of the limits; the second trip we caught as far as Margaree; I think we got a very few inside the limits.

Q. How many do you suppose, out of the 325 barrels, did you catch at Margaree inside?—A. I should think from 25 to 30 barrels.

Q. In 1852 were you cod-fishing in the early part of the season and afterward in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. How many trips did you make?—A. One, and caught 350 barrels.

Q. Of those how many were caught inside?—A. I could not say very correctly, but I should say from 20 to 30 barrels.

Q. In 1853 what were you doing?—A. I went into the bay in July; I was not fishing in the spring; I was working at sail-making.

Q. And how much did you get?—A. 180 barrels.

Q. Where?—A. Off on Banks Orphan and Bradley. There were none caught inshore that year. We did not so catch any; and there were very few mackerel in the bay that year.

Q. Was this your last trip?—A. Yes.

Q. Now from your experience during those years, what do you think of the inshore fishery in the bay for such vessels as are sent out from Gloucester? What is the value, everything considered, of the inshore fishery in the bay for such vessels as are used in the States?—A. I should not consider it worth anything.

Q. What are your objections to it?—A. It is very dangerous to fish inshore; our vessels are large and they want to be off shore in case a storm should come up.

Q. In your experience you found that there were plenty of fish off shore?—A. Yes, except the last year; there were not any fish in the bay that year save very few.

Q. You are a sailmaker, and in 1853 you went back to your trade?—A. I went into business in the fall of 1853.

Q. And followed it up until when?—A. 1864.

Q. After that did you go into the fishing business, not as a fisherman but as a dealer?—A. Yes.

Q. Had you a partner?—A. Yes; Sargent S. Day.

Q. What was the style of your firm?—A. Nelson & Day.

Q. How long were you in it?—A. From 1864 to 1869.

Q. Do you count 1864 and 1869?—A. Yes; that is, I came out in the fall of 1869.

Q. You are an outfitter and in the fishing business?—A. Yes.

Q. How many vessels did you usually manage?—A. We had six.

Q. Were you interested in all of them?—A. Yes, I think so; all except one.

Q. Some you owned?—A. Yes.

Q. And you were interested in all of them except one?—A. Yes.

Q. In these cases had your skippers shares in the vessels?—A. Yes; they invariably held a small portion of them—one-quarter or something like that.

Q. Is it customary in Gloucester for the skippers to take shares in vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it to the interest of the owners to interest them in their business in that way?—A. Yes; very much so.

Q. When the owner makes such an arrangement with a skipper, giving him a share in the vessel, one-quarter, one-eighth, or one-half, how do they carry it out? Is the skipper entered at the custom-house as part owner? Has he a bill of sale?—A. In some cases this is done, but not in all cases. He sometimes receives obligations, to be given in a bill of sale when it is paid for.

Q. He sometimes has a bill of sale, and gives a mortgage back?—A. Yes.

Q. And sometimes a private agreement is made to give him a bill of sale when he pays for it?—A. Yes.

Q. While you were engaged in the fishing business during these five or six years, were you cod-fishing as well?—A. I was some early in the spring, but I was principally engaged in the bay fisheries, that is, the vessels were principally sent to the bay.

Q. Were you fishing off the American coast at all?—A. No, not much, except at George's Bank.

Q. How did your bay fishing turn out?—A. Very slim.

Q. Did you gain or lose by it?—A. We lost by it. In that time we lost about all we had put into the concern.

Q. How much did you put in?—A. Somewhere in the vicinity of \$15,000, I think.

Q. In what business had you made that?—A. I made it principally

by sailmaking, though this was not the case with the whole of it. I made some by doing other business attached to my sailmaking business.

Q. You put in a capital of about \$14,000 or \$15,000?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you lose it all?—A. No, not the whole of it, but very nearly all.

Q. To what was the loss due; the shore fishery, cod-fishing, or the bay fishery?—A. Well, it was due to the bay fishery. We sent our vessels to the bay expecting to get something out of it, and we did not succeed.

Q. Have you your books?—A. No; what books I had were burned up last year when I was burned out.

Q. During the time you were so engaged, how was your Bank fishing—fair?—A. Yes; it was fair.

Q. How did your shore fishing turn out?—A. That was very good.

Q. Have you done anything in the fishing business since 1869?—A. No.

Q. You then went back to your other business again?—A. Yes.

Q. How often does a fishing schooner need a new suit of sails on the average, if she is well handled and well managed?—A. By good care a good suit of sails will last two years.

Q. And this requires good care?—A. Yes; I have known some cases where a new suit of sails was worn out in one year.

Q. Does a suit of sails last a fishing vessel as long as a merchantman?—A. No.

Q. A merchantman sails from one port to another, and furls her sails when she lies in port?—A. Yes; and they are generally unbent when the vessel goes into port.

Q. While fishing vessels are at it all the time?—A. Yes.

Q. What did a new suit of sails cost during the war; not a fancy suit, but a foresail, a mainsail, and a couple of jibs?—A. For a vessel of 90 or 100 tons a suit of sails of that kind then cost about \$2,100 or \$2,200.

Q. How is it now?—A. The same suit would now cost between \$500 and \$600.

Q. While you were pursuing the business, how much have you paid out for suits of sails on the average?—A. I guess they cost us, while I was in the business, about \$800 a suit on the average.

Q. What will rigging—running and standing rigging both, with blocks—delivered at the wharf, cost?—A. From \$1,000 to \$1,200.

Q. I suppose that some parts of the rigging wear out more rapidly than others?—A. Yes.

Q. Is the same material used in sails for fishing-vessels as for vessels in the merchant service?—A. They are made with the same materials, but sometimes they are not made out of the same materials. They are made out of hemp or Russia canvas.

Q. Russia duck?—A. Yes.

Q. And not canvas?—A. Not cotton canvas; they are made out of cotton and hemp canvas.

Q. Is any better material to be had for sails for small vessels than Russia duck?—A. Yes; cotton is preferable.

Q. Does it cost more?—A. It did not cost much more during the war.

Q. Cotton did not?—A. No; but cotton cost the most during the war.

Q. Your sails have been made since the war, and for many years past, out of Russia duck?—A. No.

Q. Out of what, then?—A. Cotton.

Q. And that you think is the best material?—A. Yes; for our fishing vessels.

Q. It wears the longest?—A. Yes.

Q. And yet it won't wear over two years?—A. No.

Q. You have had a good deal to do in fitting out vessels, &c.; what would a well-built vessel now cost, as she is launched, and what has such a vessel cost, say of 100 tons, built at Essex or Gloucester, on the average during the last five or six years?—A. Without rigging or sails?

Q. Rigged but without provisions—what would she cost round tackled, with sails and rigging?—A. Such a vessel would be worth \$7,500.

Q. We will call it \$8,000; suppose she cost this sum, what would her depreciation be for the first year, if nothing extraordinary happens, and if she is kept in good order, painted, and the rigging rove wherever this was required; what would the depreciation on her market value be in one year under such circumstances?—A. If I set it at \$1,000 for the first year, that would be a very low sum.

Q. That would be one-eighth of her whole cost?—A. Yes; and that would be a very low figure.

Q. What do you think her fair average depreciation would be?—A. I should consider that a fair average would be \$1,000 for one year's running from the time she first leaves the harbor; but it would go over that.

Q. It would more likely be more than less?—A. Yes.

Q. What would it be after the first year, supposing she is kept in good order all the while and suffers no extraordinary injury?—A. Perhaps it might be \$500 or \$600 a year.

Q. What is considered among persons who deal in these vessels to be the average life of a fishing-vessel, supposing that she is well built and well taken care of? You count her as a fishing-vessel down to the time when it becomes difficult to insure her, and so long as a company will take her as fairly qualified to make fishing voyages?—A. Yes. I do not know about this, but I have understood from the people in Gloucester, who have figured it up, that the average life of a fishing-vessel is fourteen years, but then I have never made it a study to find it out for myself.

Q. You take the current opinion in Gloucester on this point?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. Do I understand you to say that fourteen years is the longest period a Gloucester fishing-vessel lives?—A. No. I think that there are vessels which are a great deal older, but on the average this is not the case.

Q. How old have you known them to be run in Gloucester?—A. For twenty-five or thirty years, I think, and perhaps longer.

Q. For vessels accustomed to fish in the Bay of St. Lawrence?—A. Yes. I think it is likely they have fished there.

Q. According to you, a vessel worth \$8,000 would depreciate \$1,000 a year?—A. Yes, for the first year.

Q. And the next year she would depreciate in value \$600?—A. Yes, and I should think that would be a very low figure.

Q. And the next year how much would it be?—A. Less.

Q. At what time would the depreciation stop altogether?—A. O, well, after a vessel has depreciated for 4 or 5 years, she does not depreciate any more for a number of years.

Q. Does she get better after that?—A. I do not think she then gets any better, but she does not afterwards show depreciation so much.

Q. In what does the depreciation, which you are pleased to put down at \$1,000 for the first year, consist?—A. Well, in sails and rigging and wear of the vessel.

Q. If she is properly fitted out, how does it happen that the loss is \$1,000 the first year, and why the small amount of \$600 afterwards?—A. She might not depreciate that amount, but any man knows that if she was put on the market the depreciation would amount to \$2,000.

Q. In other words, she would not be considered a new vessel, and therefore she would not bring the same price as if she was just launched?—A. No.

Q. Would you undertake to swear that a vessel at the end of her first year would not be as good a vessel, for all practical purposes, if not better, perhaps, than when she was launched?—A. No; I would not swear any such thing.

Q. Would you swear that she then might be just as good?—A. No; there would be wear and tear of sails and rigging during that year.

Q. Would there be any wear and tear of the hull if she did not meet with any extraordinary accident?—A. I do not know that there would be any particular wear and tear of the hull if she was in good order.

Q. At the end of the first year, does not the rigging get set and does not the vessel then work generally better altogether than at first?—A. Well, I do not think so.

Q. Have you any experience yourself in this respect?—A. Well, I have had some—a little experience, but not a great deal.

Q. Do you wish to have the Commission understand that the usual value of the ordinary fishing-vessels which run out of Gloucester to fish in the Bay of St. Lawrence is \$8,000?—A. Some are worth more than that.

Q. I mean on an ordinary vessel; is \$8,000 the ordinary price for them?—A. I do not know that this would be the average value to-day of the vessels which come in to the Bay of St. Lawrence.

Q. I speak of 100-ton vessels; do you say that this would be the average value or the average cost of such vessels?—A. It would be the average cost of a new vessel.

Q. Do you speak of their cost as it was during the war, when built, rigged, and launched, or as it is at the present time?—A. I am speaking of the present time.

Q. Do you swear that an ordinary vessel of 100 tons, such as are used in Gloucester for fishing in the bay, now costs \$8,000?—A. In the vicinity of that—yes; the cost would be \$7,500 or \$8,000.

Q. That is at the rate of \$80 a ton?—A. Yes.

Q. Is not that an immense price?—A. I do not think so.

Q. Is that an ordinary price?—A. I think so; but I could not say. I have not bought any vessels by the ton.

Q. You see that if a 100 ton vessel costs \$8,000, this would be \$80 a ton?—A. Yes.

Q. Are you swearing as to the cost of vessels from your own knowledge or at hap-hazard?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you swear that a vessel of that description costs \$80 a ton?—A. About that—yes.

Q. Did you ever build one yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there anything extra about the building of these vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. What is it?—A. Sometimes there is extra cost about them, I think.

Q. But ordinarily I mean?—A. They are all built as well as we can have them built.

Q. Is such a vessel copper-fastened?—A. Yes.

Q. And coppered on the bottom?—A. No.

A. What is there extra about her?—A. This is the copper fastening.

Q. Does that cost very much?—A. I could not say.

Q. Although you undertake to say that this is the common price—\$80 a ton—you cannot tell whether copper fastening increases the price materially or not?—A. When we contract for a vessel we contract that she shall be built with copper fastenings.

Q. And you cannot tell whether copper fastening increases the price much or not?—A. Well, our vessels are all copper-fastened.

Q. You cannot tell whether copper fastening increases the price or not?—A. I could not say how much.

Q. Are you aware that vessels are now built in the States, which are classed for 10 years, and sold for \$60 a ton?—A. I do not know that.

Q. Are you aware that 1,000-ton vessels are now built and classed for ten years, at that rate?—A. I am not.

Q. Are you aware that this is not so?—A. No, I could not say that.

Q. You are not familiar with this class of vessels?—A. I am not familiar with that class of vessels.

Q. When you speak of the wear and tear of these vessels, at what time do they come into the bay?—A. In July generally.

Q. And when do they go out?—A. In the last part of October.

Q. What do you do with them for the remainder of the season?—A. They go winter fishing and shore fishing.

Q. On your own coast?—A. Yes.

Q. How long do they fish there?—A. During the winter principally.

Q. During the whole winter?—A. Principally, yes.

Q. Is not the whole or the chief part of this wear and tear sustained upon your own coast?—A. I do not think that it is.

Q. Then you wish the Commission to understand that although your vessels are only in the Bay of St. Lawrence during the summer months and the early fall months, all the wear and tear, or a large portion of it, takes place there; and that very little takes place in the winter months on your own coast?—A. I do not mean to say any such thing.

Q. What do you mean to say? I ask you whether such wear and tear is not chiefly sustained on your own coast when fishing in winter?—A. I suppose that more wear and tear is suffered on our coast in winter than would be the case in the Bay of St. Lawrence in summer; this would be the case.

Q. More than that—are not heavy snow-storms, and frost, and rain, and wind then encountered on your coast, and after they have been wet, does not the frost crack the sails?—A. During a storm in winter the vessels generally seek a harbor.

Q. But before they get under cover do not the wind and snow and ice affect the sails?—A. I do not think that it would injure the sails to have snow and ice on them.

Q. Then I understand you to say that sails which get wet and are frozen are not injured by it?—A. I do not think they are as long as they are not used.

Q. Then the sails which are wet and frozen and thawed out again in the winter are not injured by it, but they are injured by summer gales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. They are injured a great deal more

in the Bay of St. Lawrence by fogs and mildew. They mildew in the bay in summer.

Q. Do you swear that it is foggy in the bay in summer?—A. Yes.

Q. When is this the case?—A. I have been there during three summers, and it was then foggy there for a great part of the time.

Q. For how many days on the average would it be foggy?—A. That I could not say.

Q. How long would this be the case, taking the whole summer through?—A. I would not pretend to say.

Q. You swear that the fog does more injury to the sails in the bay than the winter work on your own coast?—A. I do.

Q. You swear that such fog does more injury to them than the rain and the ice and the snow on your coast?—A. Yes.

Q. And the freezing and thawing out of your sails?—A. Yes.

Q. And this does them more injury than the heavy gales which we all know prevail on your coast in winter?—A. But they are not out in the gales; if they are it would be different.

Q. I presume that they then are out?—A. Occasionally they might then be caught out.

Q. And you swear that more injury is done them by fog in the Bay of St. Lawrence than is done by all these other effects?—A. This would not be the case but on our New England coast, and more injury is done them by fog in the bay than by use on our coast.

Q. What is the average duration of this fog in the bay in summer?—A. I could not tell you.

Q. Suppose that it last for only three days during the whole season; would you then swear that this would do the sails more harm than the winter fishing?—A. No. I think there is more fog than that.

Q. You swear that there is more than that in the bay?—A. Yes; I can swear that there are more than 3 days' fog in the bay in summer.

Q. You swear this from your own experience?—A. Yes.

Q. How long do you swear the fog continues?—A. I would not want to swear to any particular number of days.

Q. How many days do you think that this is the case during the season?—A. I think I might have been for a week at a time in a fog there.

Q. Where would you be fishing then?—A. On Bank Orphan.

Q. Did you ever move off the Bank at all during this time?—A. We jogged about there and fished on the Bank. We did not go off the Bank.

Q. Were you fishing during the fog?—A. Yes.

Q. Were those the seasons when you did not come near the 3-mile limit?—A. Yes.

Q. If you could not see for a fog, how did you happen to know that you were not three miles from the coast?—A. By soundings.

Q. Would the soundings necessarily indicate how near the coast you were?—A. Yes; most generally.

Q. Do I understand you to say that the water off Prince Edward Island shoals off exactly in the same proportion from one end of the coast to the other, and that all you have to do is to throw out the lead to know exactly how far from the land you are?—A. I do not know as it does, but you can tell this pretty nearly.

Q. And when you have sworn that you did not fish within three miles of land, do you mean that the lead thus informed you as to the distance, and that you did not judge it from what you saw?—A. This was not the case at that time. We were then off shore on the Banks.

Q. You were never inshore at all?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. But you were never inshore in a fog?—A. Yes; if we were inshore in a fog we would go into a harbor.

Q. And you still adhere to your statement that this week's fog would do more harm in the mild summer weather in the bay than all the storms and snows and rains on your own coast in winter? Did you not swear that the fog in the bay did more harm to the sails and rigging of the vessels, and cause more wear and tear than all the wear and tear of your winter work on your own coast? Did you not state that more wear and tear was caused by fog in the bay than by all the storms on your own coast?—A. No; I did not say that.

Q. Did you not tell me so?—A. I did not say in the winter time; I said while fishing on the New England coast.

Q. I will put the question again: Do you say that there is more damage done the sails by summer weather in the bay than through wear and tear in winter on your own coast?—A. I think not.

Q. Did you not tell me a little while ago that more wear and tear was sustained by your vessels in the bay in summer than on your own coast in winter?—A. Well?

Q. Did you not say that?—A. I did not understand you.

Q. Did you not say that? Did you say so or not?—A. I did not put it so strong as that.

Q. Was that what you said or not?—A. If I did say so I meant that one week's fog in the bay would do more harm to a suit of sails than would be done while fishing on our New England coast.

Q. By all your winter's fishing?—A. I did not mean winter fishing, but the same amount of time on our coast.

Q. That is to say that one week's fog in the bay would do more harm than a week of winter weather on your coast?—A. Yes.

Q. But suppose you then happened to have for a week storms of snow and rain, with frost, following each other, would this do more harm than the other alternative?—A. Perhaps it would, but I think not.

Q. You think that more damage would be done on your coast in such weather as that?—A. I do not understand you.

Q. I understood you first to say that more damage would be done in the bay to a vessel, taking the season through, than would be done on your coast through all the storms of winter; and I understood you to give as your reason for this that there might be a week's fog there; and now you say you only meant that if a vessel was in a fog for a week in the bay this would do as much damage as during a week of winter weather on your own coast; will you swear that a week's fog in the bay is as bad, or anything like it, as a week's storm of rain and snow, with frost and thaw following, one after another, on your own coast in winter?—A. Well, I do not know that it would. I do not think that it would.

Q. I am told that there is no such thing as a week's fog in the bay. Tell me in what year you saw that fog?—A. I saw it in 1851 and in 1853.

Q. You were there in 1851 and 1852?—A. Yes.

Q. And in 1853?—A. Yes.

Q. You only saw it in 1851?—A. And in 1853—yes.

Q. You did not see it in 1852 at all?—A. Yes; we then had a fog.

Q. You saw it in 1851?—A. Yes.

Q. During how long a time?—A. I could not say.

Q. For a week?—A. I think so, and more.

Q. More than a week?—A. I think so.

Q. Did you see it in 1852?—A. Yes; but I would not say for how long.

Q. Had you continuous fog for a week?—A. No; I do not mean that it lasted for a week through at a time.

Q. You mean separate foggy days during the season made up a week?—A. They made more than that.

Q. You never saw such a thing as a week's continuous fog in the bay?—A. I could not swear that, but still in my mind it is very clear that we had over a week's fog.

Q. Continuously?—A. I am not swearing positively to it.

Q. Will you swear that you saw anything like a week's continuous fog in 1852?—A. No.

Q. Or in 1853?—A. I should.

Q. You that year saw a week's continuous fog?—A. I think so.

Q. Where?—A. Between Bonaventure and the island down toward the Magdalen Islands—between the island and the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Out in the center of the gulf?—A. Yes; on Banks Orphan and Bradley.

Q. And that lasted a week?—A. I think so.

Q. What did you do all that time?—A. We tried for mackerel.

Q. Could you tell where you were?—A. We could tell that pretty nearly.

Q. How far were you from the Magdalen Islands when the fog came on?—A. I could not tell. I was then only a hand on the vessel.

Q. Were you a sharesman?—A. Yes.

Q. How long is it since you left for Denmark?—A. Well, it is over thirty years ago.

Q. That would be in 1847; and in 1851 you went fishing in the bay; what did you do in the mean time?—A. I went to sea.

Q. Where?—A. On foreign voyages.

Q. I suppose that, like most emigrants, when you came to America, you did not come with money of your own?—A. No, I do not think that I did.

Q. Whatever money you made, you made in this country?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1851, when you first went fishing in the gulf, you had not made much money?—A. No; not much, but I had a little.

Q. Where did you learn your trade of sailmaking?—A. In the United States.

Q. When?—A. I learned it during the winter in 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, and 1853.

Q. Then you did not fish at all in winter?—A. No, but I fished in the spring.

Q. In 1853, when you left fishing altogether, and went into business, what capital did you bring into it?—A. I had but very little.

Q. Into what kind of business did you go?—A. Sailmaking and rigging.

Q. And at this business you made your money?—A. Yes.

Q. Did I not understand you to say that you went into the fishing business in 1853?—A. No.

Q. When did you first go into the fishing business?—A. In 1864, I think.

Q. And then you put \$14,000 or \$15,500 of capital into the business?—A. Yes.

Q. And you had made this altogether by rigging?—A. Yes; rigging and sailmaking.

Q. How many vessels did you send into the bay in the course of time

you were engaged in business?—A. We had four that went into the bay principally.

Q. Did you go with them yourself?—A. No.

Q. Did you send captains?—A. Yes.

Q. And were these captains part owners with you?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know where those vessels fished?—A. I could not tell.

Q. You do not know whether they fished inshore or not?—A. No.

Q. Did you never inquire? Did they do a good business?—A. No; they did not do much.

Q. Did they get the same average catches which you obtained from 1851 to 1853?—A. Some years they did and some years they did not.

Q. Were the prices of mackerel then very low?—A. No; they were fair.

Q. Did those vessels in which you went into the bay in 1851, 1852, and 1853 make money?—A. No.

Q. Did they lose?—A. I do not think that they made anything.

Q. Will you tell me how it was that with the full knowledge which you had of the fishing business in the bay—it being either a losing business or one in which you did not make money—you were tempted to go into the business of sending vessels to the bay; you had had personal experience that the fisheries in the bay were good for nothing?—A. I had heard that a good many vessels had made money in the fishing business, and I went into it with the intention of making money, but I found that I was mistaken.

Q. You had heard that a good many vessels went into the bay and made money?—A. Yes, some.

Q. Although your experience personally was entirely against it?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1851, when you made two trips and caught 300 and 325 barrels, what was the size of the vessel?—A. I think about 80 tons.

Q. What would be a full fare?—A. 300 or 325 barrels.

Q. When you made those two trips, did you go both times back to Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. And you got full fares on both occasions?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1852, when you got 350 barrels, was it the same vessel?—A. Yes.

Q. That was a full fare?—A. Yes.

Q. You told me a full fare was 325 barrels?—A. We carried some on deck.

Q. Did you fish in 1853?—A. Yes.

Q. What was your fare then?—A. 180 barrels.

Q. The same vessel?—A. No.

Q. What tonnage was the vessel?—A. About the same tonnage, I think. Her name was Vienna.

Q. You did not get a full fare?—A. No.

Q. On that occasion you swear you only fished on Bradley and Orphan Banks?—A. On the first year I swear that.

Q. I speak of the last year, when you caught 182 barrels?—A. I do.

Q. That was not a full fare?—A. No.

Q. What time did you leave the bay?—A. I think about the 1st November.

Q. What time did you go into the bay?—A. In July.

Q. Though you only got 180 barrels, which was not a full fare by 120 barrels, you never, during the whole time, went inshore at all?—A. We went inshore.

Q. Did you go inshore?—A. We tried inshore.

Q. Where?—A. Coming out of Cascumpeque and Malpeque.

Q. Was that within the three miles?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you try in Bay Chaleurs?—A. Yes.

Q. At Margaree?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you get any mackerel?—A. There were no mackerel there that year. We tried, also, off Port Hood, and did not get any there.

Q. Then there were no mackerel at all inshore that year?—A. We did not get any.

Q. Were there any catches made in the bay that year?—A. Yes.

Q. And notwithstanding that cutters were in the bay you went inshore to fish?—A. We tried coming out of harbors. I don't suppose the cutters saw.

Q. What did you go in for?—A. We went in for a harbor. I said that in coming out of harbors we tried.

Q. All the trying you did was when you made for harbors, and tried coming out?—A. Yes.

Q. You really did not try anywhere at all?—A. It is so long ago I cannot recollect.

Q. Yet you recollect that in 1852 you caught 25 or 30 barrels at Margaree?—A. I recollect that because the cutter was coming down, and we got under way and stood out.

Q. That was the reason you did not catch any more?—A. Yes; I have no doubt about it.

Q. There was good fishing inshore there?—A. Yes; very good.

Q. And you went out of the bay because you could not fish inshore? Did you try at Margaree in 1853?—A. There were no mackerel at Margaree that year.

Q. Did you try at the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes; we caught a few there; very few.

Q. In answer to Mr. Dana, you said you only fished on Bradley and Orphan Bauks, and did not fish inshore?—A. That was where I caught my fish.

Q. If you fished that year at Magdalen Islands, why did you not say so to Mr. Dana?—A. We did not catch any mackerel there. I understood Mr. Dana wanted to know where we took our mackerel, and I said at Banks Bradley and Orphan. We tried toward Magdalen Islands and at Margaree and Prince Edward Island.

Q. You mean you did try at Magdalen Islands, but did not catch any?—A. Yes.

Q. How long did you stay at Magdalen Islands?—A. We might have been there one or two days.

Q. What time of the year was it?—A. In September, I think.

Q. Why did you go away from there?—A. It is no use to stay there if no mackerel are there.

Q. Is it stormy round Magdalen Islands at all?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you consider it an unsafe place to fish late in the season?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it usually so considered among fishermen?—A. I believe so.

Q. Is it one of the most dangerous places in the bay?—A. I don't consider it half so dangerous as at Prince Edward Island.

Q. What part of Prince Edward Island is twice as dangerous as Magdalen Islands?—A. In the bend of the island.

Q. Are there no harbors there?—A. Yes; there are harbors, but they are hard harbors to get into.

Q. Have you been there of late years to see if there are any harbors of refuge there?—A. I have not.

Q. Are there not many more vessels lost at Magdalen Islands than at Prince Edward Island?—A. I think not.

Q. That is your idea?—A. Of late years there may have been. In former years more were lost at Prince Edward Island.

Q. Do you mean to say that, excepting the year of the great American gale?—A. I take that in.

Q. At what time of the year did that occur?—A. I do not know whether in September or October. In October, I think.

Q. That is the season when few or no vessels are at Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes.

Q. They would leave Magdalen Islands and go fishing at Prince Edward Island?—A. I don't know.

Q. Don't they fish around Prince Edward much later in the season than around Magdalen Islands?—A. Not at the bend of the island. Around East Point they do.

Q. Were not a number of the vessels lost at East Point?—A. Some were lost there, I think.

Q. Then you swear that you believe Magdalen Islands to be a safer place than Prince Edward Island?—A. I would rather fish there. There are more chances for a vessel to get out.

Q. Why?—A. There is a chance to go around the islands.

Q. Is there not a chance to go around Prince Edward Island at the northeast or north end?—A. If you are near either end there is the same; if you are not near one of the ends you have not much chance in a storm.

Q. Cannot you go into the harbors?—A. Suppose a vessel draws 12 or 14 feet, she cannot go over the bars.

Q. If the bar has less depth of water, of course she cannot. Do you say the harbors have less than that?—A. They had at that time; I don't know what they are now.

Q. In answer to Mr. Dana, you stated that you believe the inshore fishery is of no practical value to the United States?—A. I should not consider it so.

Q. And did you so consider it in 1851, 1852, and 1853?—A. Yes.

Q. Was that the general opinion?—A. I think that is the general opinion of everybody.

Q. Amongst fishermen in 1851, 1852, and 1853, and ever since?—A. Yes; I think so.

Q. Did you ever hear any one among fishermen say to the contrary?—A. I don't know I ever heard anybody.

Q. How do you account for their making such endeavors to get the right to fish inshore?—A. I did not know they made any endeavors.

Q. In your judgment they are good for nothing?—A. I would not give one cent for the whole of them.

Q. And you think that is the opinion of all the fishermen?—A. I could not say what their opinion is. It is so, as far as I know.

Q. And as far as you know is it the opinion of fish merchants?—A. I could not say.

Q. You were in that business yourself?—A. I am not in business now.

Q. You have stated that in your opinion the inshore fisheries are not worth one cent, and that as far as you know that is the opinion of the fishermen?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that the opinion of the fish merchants as well?—A. I think so.

Q. I suppose that is the opinion in Gloucester, Boston, and all along the coast of Massachusetts?—A. I think so.

Q. And if any person, either a United States fisherman or otherwise, makes any trouble about getting the right to fish within the three miles for their vessels, you think he is foolish?—A. I think so. I think they will be fools to pay anything for it.

Q. If they can get the fishing without paying for it, they will not be fools?—A. There are very few fish inshore anyway.

Q. Even now that is so?—A. I don't know. I have not been there lately. I could not say.

Q. You don't know anything about it practically since 1853?—A. Not practically.

Q. You seriously swear you would not give one cent for the inshore fisheries?—A. At that time I would not.

Q. That is in 1854. Have you heard that they have since been very much better?—A. I have not.

Q. Would you rather have one cent in your pocket than the grant of all these fisheries?—A. I think I should.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. I suppose you think, in that case, you would have to carry them about?—A. Yes.

Q. If you had a large number of vessels and you intended to send them to the bay to fish, would you send them if you had to pay for the right of inshore fishing?—A. No; I would not.

Q. And the result of your experience is that it would not pay to send them into the bay to fish?—A. No; as far as my experience goes.

Q. About sails. Are there not great efforts made to procure something to prevent the effect of fog and mildew on sails?—A. Yes.

Q. It is considered a very serious evil?—A. Yes.

Q. More so than ordinary storm and rain?—A. Yes.

Q. I suppose seafaring-men, when they get into harbor, after a storm of wind and rain, dry the sails?—A. Yes.

Q. A few days of rain followed by sunshine would not hurt a vessel so much as long-continued dampness?—A. No.

No. 67.

JAMES W. PATTILLO, of North Stoughton, Mass., retired fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot:

Question. How old are you?—Answer. 71 years on 29th September last.

Q. You have been a fisherman in your day?—A. Yes.

Q. And have fished a good deal?—A. All the way along from 1834 to 1868.

Q. Were you fishing all that time?—A. The best part of it; some part of the time I was not.

Q. What were you doing when you were not fishing?—A. I was agent two years for the insurance company.

Q. Whereabouts?—A. Down at Cape Breton Island, at Port Hood, looking out for American vessels.

Q. From 1834 to 1868, how often were you skipper?—A. I was skipper in 1838.

Q. How many years?—A. 1839, 1840, and all the way along pretty much.

Q. All the while from 1840 to 1868?—A. Yes, all the time I was master except two years, when I did not go to the bay.

Q. During that period of time have you been in the bay a good deal?—A. Some years I went to the bay two trips, some years but one trip, and some years not at all.

Q. Have you done any fishing on the American coast as well as in the bay?—A. I have.

Q. What sort of proportion does the fishing on the American coast bear to the fishing in the bay? Did you fish most on your coast or most in the bay?—A. I fished more in the bay than on the coast, although I have done fully better on our own shores in seasons than I ever have in the bay.

Q. You say you went fishing first in 1834. Where did you go?—A. I did not go into North Bay in 1834. I fished on our own shores.

Q. When was the first year you went into the bay?—A. In 1836, in the Good Hope.

Q. When was the last year you were in the gulf?—A. 1868.

Q. Did you find any difference in the fishing in 1868 from what it was in 1836, and, if so, what was the difference?—A. In 1836 we did but little. We had a large vessel, Good Hope, with 13 or 14 men, and got 65 barrels. We proceeded there some time in July, and arrived home at the latter part of September.

Q. How often after that did you go into the gulf? What is the total number of consecutive years you have been in the bay?—A. I have been there 21 trips.

Q. You have then got a pretty good knowledge of what the gulf fishing has been from 1836 to 1868. How does the gulf fishing compare now with what it was when you first went there?—A. I have not been there since 1868, and of what has been done since I have little knowledge except what I have read.

Q. From 1836 to 1868, has there been a great change in the bay fishing, or was it pretty much the same?—A. In the gulf it used to vary. Some years there would be pretty good fishing, and other years it would be pretty slim.

Q. Where was your general fishing-place in the gulf?—A. On Banks Orphan and Bradley, and at Magdalen Islands. At Magdalen Islands I fished mostly always, and I found better fishing 15 or 20 miles from the land, on the north side of the Magdalens, and round Bird Rocks, than anywhere else. I have caught some mackerel along at Point Miscon, in the range of North Cape, Prince Edward Island; but one-half of the mackerel we got at Magdalen Islands and round Banks Bradley and Orphan.

Q. During these 21 years, how much fishing did you do within three miles of the land?—A. To the best of my judgment, I will give you the facts. I had the day and date for all the items, but in 1863 we had a fire, and it was burned up, and therefore I will give you them the best I can from memory. I never thought anything about it till a week ago, when I overhauled my memory, and I can give it to you. The first year, in the Good Hope, we got 65 barrels of mackerel; none were caught within the limits. I think we caught about 35 barrels in one day, about 8 or 10 miles to the northward of Magdalen Islands.

Mr. THOMSON called attention to a memorandum from which witness was reading.

WITNESS said the paper was a memorandum he had made out of the years he had been in North Bay and where he caught the mackerel.

Mr. THOMSON. If your books were lost and your memory does not serve you, how did you make up the paper?—A. From my memory.

Q. Why did you make up the paper?—A. I made it up to be accurate, and so that if I was asked questions, I might not mix up voyages.

Mr. THOMSON. Then I understand you to state that you sat down and made up that paper from your recollection?—A. Yes.

Examination resumed.

WITNESS. The next mackerel we got was somewhere about 40 wash-barrels, about twenty miles broad off St. Peter's. That was all the mackerel we got to make up 65 barrels. Those were 65 sea-barrels, which we carried to Cape Ann. The second year, 1837, I was in the Mount Vernon, and we caught 300 barrels of mackerel. We caught 200 barrels broad off to an anchor within half a mile of the land; and 100 barrels we caught 10, 15, or 20 miles from the land.

Mr. TRESPOT. Where did you catch them?—A. At Margaree Island or Sea Cove Island. It was on 13th October, I remember it well, and we filled up. In 1838 I was master of the same Good Hope, and we got 270 barrels. I think, according to the best of my judgment, we got 50 barrels of them within three miles of the land, but I think, to the best of my judgment, the rest were taken in our own waters, 5, 10, 15 or 20 miles from the land. In 1839 I was in the Tiger, and got 75 barrels. We caught them all off shore, that is, without the three-mile limit. In 1840 I was not in the bay; I fell from the mast-head and broke my thigh. In 1841 I was in the bay twice in the Abigail. The first trip we got 250 barrels on Banks Bradley and Orphan. The second trip we got 75 barrels up at the bend of the island, making 325 barrels for the season. In 1842, 1843, and 1844, I was fishing on our shores in the Hosea Blue. In 1845 and 1846 I fished on our shores. In 1848 I fished on our shores in the Alexander. In 1849 I was at home. In 1850 I was in the Alexander on our shores. In 1851 I was in the bay in the Alexander, and made two trips; that was the year of the gale. On the first trip, I caught, between Point Miscou and North Cape, 314 barrels. I landed them at Arichat, with a member of the house named Martel, and he advanced me the money to fit out the second time. The next trip I got 214 barrels after the gale. To the best of my judgment I got from 75 to 100 barrels within the limits. We got them in two or three days after the gale. Some of them made out we were within the limits, so I went home; I thought it was no use to continue. Captain Derby was kind of chasing us, so I went home. I had to come to Arichat and get my 314 barrels. In 1852 I caught 335 barrels, and I caught them from the north part of Anticosti up to Seven Islands, right in the gulf, 15 or 20 miles from land. We were about in the range off from the northwest part of Anticosti to Seven Islands, and up the gulf. That was in the Alexander. In 1853 I had the schooner Highland Lass, and got 400 barrels. I caught them between Point Miscou, say 10 or 15 miles off Miscou, and up the west shore, 8 or 10 miles along, at Escuminac. I caught half of them to an anchor. It was the year when the vessel was new. Those are all sea-barrels. The next year, 1854, I got 300 barrels. In 1855 I had Christie Campbell, a new vessel. The Highland Lass was in the bay. A man named Samuel Chambers was in her; I know he did not do a great deal, but I don't know what he got. On the first trip I got 250 barrels on Banks Bradley and Orphan; on the second trip I caught 200 barrels at Magdalen Islands. In 1856 I got 285 barrels. I caught the principal part of them on Fisherman's Bank, between Cape George and Georgetown. I got about 100 barrels there at the last of the month; it would

up my fare, on, I think, 19th October. In 1847 I was in the gulf again and got 330 barrels. I caught them at Magdalen Islands, off Blackland, and some down round the Bird Rocks. We caught them round Bird Rocks to an anchor, and the balance off Blackland, on the north side of the Magdalens. In 1858 I was agent for the insurance company. In 1859 I was at home. I had a man to go in her, so I staid at home. In 1860 I was again agent for the insurance company, looking after American vessels. In 1861 I went to the gold diggings, down at Wine Harbor, and bought an old claim for \$60; but I did not get much gold. In 1862 I was in the *Rose Skerrit*, and got two trips of mackerel. The first trip of 350 barrels I got off Blackland, at Magdalen Islands; the second trip I got 400 barrels, making 750 barrels in short of three months, and we went home and landed them. We caught the first trip in twelve days, and the second we took in twenty days. We got our trips all round the Magdalens, and perhaps half-way from Entry Island to East Point.

Q. Did you get any within the three miles?—A. Not one of them. In 1863 I went in *Oliver Cromwell* and got 940 barrels. I made but one trip. I sent home 560 barrels, I think. I could not pretend to say to a barrel. I think I landed the first trip, 330 barrels, at Maguire's in the Gut, and the next trip we landed, making 560 barrels. That is to the best of my memory. Before we came home we made it up to 950 barrels.

Q. Where did you catch those?—A. I caught half of the first trip between Entry Island and Cheticamp, about half way. We had Entry Island in sight, 25 miles off, and sometimes not quite so far. It is known to be a good fishing ground, and there we got one-half of our mackerel on the first trip. Of the rest of the mackerel, we caught some within the limits; I don't know just how many. I could not pretend to say on my oath, but we got some. We got them in Georges Bay, between Cape George and Cape Patrick, in Antigonish Bay. Of these 940 barrels, we probably got 100 barrels within the limits; I think that is a large estimate of what we got there. I think it would be honest and fair, as between man and man, to say 100 barrels, which would be as much as we got inshore, to the best of my judgment. In 1864 I went in the schooner *Scotland*. She was 125 tons. We got 500 barrels that trip. We got half of them on Banks Bradley and Orphan; some up off Point Miscou. The next year, 1865, I went two trips in her. The first trip I got 370 barrels; we got all of them on Banks Bradley and Orphan; and on the second trip when we caught them, the east point of the island was west-southwest of us 15 or 20 miles. We got a deck of mackerel there accidentally. We were becalmed and hove to and got 100 or 120 wash-barrels there. We got half of the trip there, and we got the rest of that trip between East Point and Port Hood. In 1866 I was at home; I went to the Banks. In 1867 I was one trip in the *Scotland* and got about 400 barrels. I cannot tell you exactly, but I think not one barrel was taken inshore. We caught them between Prince Edward Island and Point Miscou. In 1868 I caught 450 barrels. I got them in the bay and caught 350 barrels on our own shore before I started. I made two trips on the *Georges* before I went to the bay. I went out and was gone ten days and got 130 barrels; I went again and got 220 barrels, making 350 barrels in, I guess, not over 25 or 28 days, and I got the balance of the fall trip making 450, and also making 750 barrels for that year.

Q. Where did you get the 450 barrels?—A. I got half of them between Entry Island and Prince Edward Island, and some to the north of North Cape.

THURSDAY, *October 18, 1877.*

The Conference met.

The examination of JAMES W. PATTILLO was resumed.

By Mr. Trescot :

Question. I see you are stated to belong to North Stoughton; were you born there?—Answer. No; I was born in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia, September 29, 1806.

Q. Without giving precise details of your catches during your 21 years of experience in the bay as a fisherman, will you tell me what proportion of the fish you caught during this period was taken within the 3-mile limit?—A. Possibly 10 per cent.—10 barrels out of 100; and I think that would be a large proportion, because during the 21 seasons I was in the bay the most mackerel I ever so caught was in my second year.

Q. Being a fisherman of that experience, what sort of advantage do you think it is to have the right to fish within the 3-mile limit in British waters; do you attach much importance to it?—A. Well, if I had to go in the bay I should not calculate that inshore fishing was worth anything at all. I would only go inshore to make harbors and dress fish. I would not give a snap of my finger for the inshore fisheries. When licenses cost 50 cents a ton I would not pay it. I would rather fish in my own waters, because I could do better there.

Q. You never took a license out?—A. I never did. I was for three years in the bay when they were issued, but I would not take one out. I did not want them.

Q. You were then master of your own vessel?—A. Yes; I owned the vessel and was master.

Q. And you ran the risk?—A. I fished in my own waters, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 20 miles off land, and I always did better there than inshore. I would not give a cent for the inshore fisheries. All I would go inshore for would be to make a harbor.

Q. You never had any trouble with the cutters?—A. No; save once when they chased me.

Q. But that was no trouble?—A. O, no; it was only for doing a kind act.

Q. Besides having fished for 21 years in the bay, did you fish much on our own coast?—A. I did.

Q. How does the fishing on our coast compare with the fishing in the bay?—A. I have myself always done better on our own shore, with the exception of one year, than I ever did in North Bay.

Q. During how many years did you fish on our shore?—A. I think I fished there 8 seasons, or somewhere about that; it was perhaps a little more, but I know I fished there 8 years.

Q. If you found the fishing on our shore so much better than the fishing in the bay, why did you go to the bay?—A. Well, there was just one principle on which we used mostly to go to the bay; the fact is that when we shipped a crew at Cape Cod, after we had been off for a fortnight or 3 weeks on our shore, men would leave the vessel; but when we got a crew and came to North Bay, they had to stay on board; there was then no back door to crawl out of. This was one of the chief reasons for coming to the bay, as we then had no trouble in the shipping of hands, good, bad, or indifferent; but when we were down on our shore, men would go off and we would have to secure new hands. Men would think they might do better, and they would go where the high line was; and we were then under the necessity of supplying their places. Another thing was, that by going to the bay, we got clear of the fog. On our

coast there is a great deal of fog, but when we reach North Bay, we get clear of it.

Q. You say that in the gulf your fishing was done on the Banks and toward the Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes; we caught the heft of our mackerel invariably around the Magdalen Islands.

Q. As a fishing ground; taking it all in all, are the Magdalen Islands much worse than Prince Edward Island?—A. They are better than Prince Edward Island.

Q. You did not fish much about Prince Edward Island?—A. I never did a great deal. I tried around there, but I never caught many fish there.

Q. You are sure that you never took a license out?—A. Yes; I am sure that I never took a license out. I never paid a red cent for a license.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. You never took out a license?—A. No.

Q. Where were you in 1866?—A. At home.

Q. Do you know of a vessel belonging to Gloucester called the Scotland?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you own her?—A. Yes.

Q. Was she in the bay in 1866?—A. I do not recollect whether she was or not.

Q. How happens it, since you have given most extraordinary evidence of having a good memory, recollecting not only what you did 30 years ago, but the very days of the month when events occurred, that you do not remember where the Scotland was in 1866, and what she was then doing?—A. I think that Captain Bartlett went in her that year to the Banks, fresh halibuting—down at St. Peter's Bank.

Q. And she did not go to the bay at all that year?—A. I think not.

Q. Can you swear positively that she did not?—A. No; I cannot; but to the best of my recollection she did not go to the bay that year.

Q. Did any of your vessels, when you were not in them, take out licenses?—A. Not that I know of.

Q. Can you swear that the Scotland did not take out a license in 1866, and did not fish in the Bay in 1866?—A. Well, she might have then been in the bay; I was not in her. I never paid for a license to my knowledge in my life.

Q. I presume that the captain would not pay for a license out of his own pocket?—A. Well, I cannot recollect paying for one. I know that I did not do so when I was in her myself.

Q. How happens it, if your memory is so good, that you cannot remember this? You surprised me by stating as far back as 30 years ago, not only what you did during a particular year, but also what you did on the 18th and 19th of October?—A. The 18th and 19th of October?

Q. I think so.—A. No; but I recollect catching mackerel in the Mount Vernon, on the 11th, 12th and 13th of October, when we took 200 barrels. I recollect that as well as if it had only happened yesterday. My memory serves me better concerning events which happened some 40 years ago, than for those that have occurred somewhat recently.

Q. That was in 1837?—A. Yes.

Q. Forty years ago?—A. Yes.

Q. You not only recollect what you then did, but also the very days of the month in this regard?—A. That is true. I do so recollect it.

Q. I do not mean to say that your memory is not quite accurate; but it surprises me to find that with such an exceedingly retentive

memory, you fail to remember where the Scotland went in 1866?—A. Well, I can recollect events that happened 40 and 50 years ago better than anything which happened yesterday. I had everything that occurred as I went along, until I was burned out; until then I had manuscripts referring to all my voyages and cruises, and everything else that I did; and in this statement I have given the facts just as they occurred, as well as my memory serves me. I give you the truth on both sides just as faithfully as I would if I were to die this very minute. I want to give you the exact truth.

Q. I don't dispute that.—A. That is it.

Q. I am not charging you with making any willful mistake; but I wish to see whether you are in error.—A. I may be in error.

Q. You say that all the memoranda which you kept concerning your voyages have been lost; why did you keep such written memoranda?—A. I always kept them, in order to know what I did, whereabouts I was, and how much money I made, as I most always owned the whole of all the vessels I had, though I did not own the whole of the Scotland. I never kept such account further than concerned what expenses were paid, and what balance belonged to me; and in this way I knew how much I made, after I had completed my voyage and paid all charges; then if I made \$1,000, I thus knew that I made it such a year; and if I made \$2,000, I put that down for such or such a year, clear of living and expenses. Sometimes it was more, and sometimes it was less; but such as it was, I made a memorandum of it, to which I could refer and know just exactly where I stood. I never went into debt, and I always paid as I went.

Q. After you made such memoranda, you would have no occasion to refer to them again?—A. No; but I always could do so if any questions arose rendering it desirable.

Q. Had you occasion to refer back to them; nothing occurred to make this necessary until this occasion arose?—A. No.

Q. When did you last read them?—A. I have not read any paper concerning my voyages since I knocked off fishing, and my last year's fishing was in 1868. I have not thought of doing so.

Q. I presume that when you read the record of 1868, or of 1867, you would not have gone back to the extent of 30 years previously—to 1837, or 1838? Nothing had then happened to call your attention to such matters?—A. No; nothing has occurred in the fishing business in which I have been in any way or shape interested, since I left off fishing, and 1868 was my last year.

Q. In 1868, when you made your last memorandum on the subject of your fishing voyages, you had no occasion to turn over and read your manuscripts as far back as 1837?—A. Well, then I had no manuscripts to refer to.

Q. Did you make memoranda concerning what you did in 1868?—A. After my manuscripts were burned up, I never made any such memoranda at all.

Q. When were they burned up?—A. In 1863 or 1864, I think.

Q. Then you did not make any such memoranda afterward?—A. No.

Q. I suppose you made memoranda respecting what you did in 1863, or 1862?—A. They were burned up.

Q. Did you do so in 1862?—A. I think so.

Q. When you had done so, did you then have occasion to refer back to previous entries as far back as 1837?—A. No.

Q. After you had made an entry for any particular year, nothing ever occurred to call your attention back to those entries until after the books

which contained them were burned?—A. No; I never referred to them, but often when we got together we would talk over what we had done such and such a year; we would talk over at the fireside what we had done in a vessel—say in 1836, 1837, or 1838—telling how many mackerel we got and how much money we made, and all that, in common talk. We would refer to these matters time and time again, telling who was high-line, and all what happened. We used to talk over these subjects in that way.

Q. Although you did talk over what you did in these different years, you never referred to this memorandum-book to verify your statements?—A. No.

Q. Then it comes to this, that although you had a memorandum-book, you never referred to it at all to assist your memory?—A. No; not a bit.

Q. With this extraordinary memory, the accuracy of which I do not dispute—recollecting not only what you did 40 years ago but the very days of the month on which certain events happened, yet you cannot tell me whether in 1866, 11 years ago, your vessel, the *Scotland*, went into the bay to fish or not?—A. Well, she went halibuting that year.

Q. But she did not go into the bay?—A. No; she went to St. Peter's Bank and the Western Bank.

Q. But that is not the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Well, she might have gone up above Seven Islands, where a good many halibut used to be got.

Q. That lies south of the coast of Labrador and north of the island of Anticosti?—A. Yes.

Q. Did she go there to catch halibut?—A. She might have done so; I was not in her. She was in charge of Captain Bartlett at the time.

Q. Your captain would surely tell you where he had been and where he had caught his fish? This would be your first question?—A. As long as he had halibut that was the chief thing I looked after.

Q. I do not think you would be content with merely knowing that? You would ask him where he had been and where he had caught his fish?—A. Sometimes I might do so and sometimes I might not.

Q. Did you, in point of fact, ask and discover from him where he had been and what he had caught that year?—A. I could not answer that question; I could not say whether I did so or not; I might possibly have done so, and I might not.

Q. Then I am right in stating that, notwithstanding your good memory, you do not recollect whether your vessel, the *Scotland*, went in 1866 into the gulf or not?—A. Well, I am pretty positive in saying that she did not go there that year mackereling.

Q. Did she go there at all, for halibut or any other fish?—A. Not that I know of; that is not within my recollection.

Q. You have no recollection of Captain Bartlett having taken out a license in the bay that year?—A. No.

Q. Do you recollect what the license-fee was that year?—A. It might have been \$1 for all I know, and it might have been 50 cents.

Q. What was the tonnage of the *Scotland*?—A. 123, carpenter's measurement, and I think one hundred and something new tonnage. I think that I paid for 125 or 130 tons, when I bought her.

Q. Did they measure the tonnage by carpenter's measurement in levying fees?—A. That I cannot tell.

Q. The fee would be at least \$50, if they charged 50 cents per ton, or \$120 if \$1 a ton was charged.—A. Yes.

Q. That sum would not be paid by the captain?—A. I suppose that

it would come out of the common stock—the whole stock; one-half would be paid by the crew, and one-half by the owner. I suppose so—I do not know; but that is my impression.

Q. In the report concerning the issue of fishing licenses, for fishing inshore in Canadian waters, it is stated that in 1866 a license was taken out by the Scotland, J. W. Pattils, of Gloucester, Mass.?—A. There is no person of that name. James W. Pattillo is my name.

Q. The name entered here is J. W. Pattils—probably a misprint—and the tonnage of the Scotland is given as 78; that, I suppose, would be ordinary tonnage, not carpenter's measurement?—A. I suppose so.

Q. How many men did she carry?—A. Sometimes 14 and sometimes 15.

Q. She is represented here as having 16 men, and as having paid 50 cents per ton for the license, amounting in all to \$38.50. There was no other Scotland, J. W. Pattils, of Gloucester, Mass.; and yet you see that she did take out a license that year?—A. How is that name spelled?

Q. Pattils.—A. My name is spelled Pattillo.

Q. There is no person that spells his name Pattils, that you are aware of, in Gloucester?—A. No.

Q. And your initials are J. W.?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you undertake to say that this entry is wrong, and that such a license was never taken out?—A. Well, I would not pretend to say that statement is wrong; but I have no recollection of this having been the case.

Q. At all events, if the captain took it in your absence, and without your knowledge, he had more respect for the inshore fisheries than you have now, apparently?—A. Well, I never paid a cent for a license to my knowledge, though I might have paid for that, but I do not recollect of having done so. I never considered inshore fishing in the bay worth 50 cents, nor yet would I pay 25 cents for the privilege.

Q. In answer to Mr. Trescot, you stated you thought that the fishing off the American coast was better than the fishing around Prince Edward Island and in the bay?—A. I think so.

Q. You spoke of the American coast as "our shore," and in the same breath you said you were born in Nova Scotia?—A. I have been naturalized; and I now call that our shore. I have become a citizen of the United States.

Q. When were you naturalized?—A. In 1836, I think; I have the papers to show.

Q. The oath you have thus taken is not merely, I believe, an oath of allegiance as a citizen of the United States, but also an oath of abrogation of allegiance to Queen Victoria and the sovereigns of Great Britain?—A. I think that when I was sworn, which was in open court, I swore to be true to the United States of America, and I also swore allegiance against Great Britain and Ireland and all Her Majesty's dominions.

Q. I thought so.—A. And I have tried to be loyal to the United States ever since.

Q. You came from Nova Scotia, and you say you swore allegiance against Nova Scotia when you took this oath?—A. Well, I wanted to have the right and privilege of any citizen, and I could not secure that without going through this preliminary.

Q. And after that you tried to keep your oath, and you have been heart and soul an American citizen ever since?—A. Yes; certainly.

Q. And you regard this question, which is now to be determined by

these Commissioners, from an American stand-point?—A. Yes; of course I do.

Q. And I suppose you take quite an interest in seeing the Commissioners award nothing, or as little as possible, against the United States?—A. Well, I took no thought of it—good, bad, or indifferent—until I was invited to come down here; and that was a week ago yesterday. I have tried to overhaul my memory the best I could, and I have done the best I could. If anybody could do it any better, I would like to have him try it. I have done the best I could, and if I have done wrong, I have not intended it. I would not lie for the Commission, whether they give fifteen millions or not.

Q. Do not misunderstand me. I am not charging you with lying or anything of that kind.—A. No; I would not do it.

Q. Tell me why, having this memory, and considering the fact that your memoranda were destroyed, you wrote down memoranda on that paper?—A. I could tell all the things just as they came along, but I wanted to be accurate, and I did not know but they might begin at one end or the other, and I wanted it to refer to.

Q. You have been examined before you came here?—A. I have merely talked it over.

Q. You had no idea of Mr. Trescott puzzling you?—A. He asked me a word or two; but I did not then refer to any particular year—good, bad, or indifferent.

Q. You had no idea of his entrapping you?—A. Well, I did not know but what you might catch me.

Q. You have stated you do not think that the inshore fisheries in the gulf are worth anything at all?—A. No; I do not.

Q. And you say that you never took out a license, but I see that one of your vessels took out a license; hence, her captain entertained a different opinion from yourself in this regard; are you really serious in saying that they are worth nothing at all?—A. No; they are not. The fish of the sea, on any shore, are not worth anything.

Q. Then your idea is that these inshore fisheries ought not to be paid for by the United States, because the fish in the sea are nobody's fish until they are caught?—A. That is it; I never thought that the fisheries inshore were worth anything.

Q. For this reason, because they are not caught?—A. Well, that is one reason for it.

Q. You did catch fish inshore on several occasions; you took more than half one trip—100 barrels or upwards inshore?—A. I was then a hand, and was along with William Forbes in the Mount Vernon; that was a very poor year when very few mackerel were taken in the whole bay.

Q. Even so, but you then caught one-half of your trip inshore?—A. We took two-thirds of it, 200 barrels.

Q. Inshore?—A. Yes; within half a mile of the island. That was my second year fishing.

Q. The privilege of fishing inshore was worth something that year?—A. We made a little out of it that time.

Q. If you could do that again, the inshore fishing would be worth something?—A. I have tried it a number of times, but I could never do anything of any account inshore.

Q. O, yes, you did afterward to some extent?—A. Well, while I was in the Oliver Cromwell I caught 940 barrels, and I think about 100 barrels of these were taken inshore. I did not go home with my first catch that year, but I sent fish home twice. I shipped from Causo 330 bar-

rels, I think, the first time, and 230 barrels, or thereabouts, the second time, and the rest I carried home.

Q. Did you pack them out in Canso?—A. No; I only landed them there.

Q. Why?—A. I landed them because this was during the war, and the men were afraid of being drafted, and if I had gone home, I would have had to hire men for the purpose at Canso. Cruisers were burning everything up, and so I got a letter of marque and got all prepared. I obtained a license from the Secretary of War over at Charlestown, and I fitted out my vessel with a six-pounder and shot and cutlasses, and everything necessary for us to fight our way; and I landed the fish and made only one trip that season, because the men were afraid to return lest they should be drafted.

Q. You fitted out not against British but Southern cruisers, and your men were afraid of being drafted into the northern army?—A. I fitted out against any one who should trouble me anyhow; and I was determined, if necessary, to fight my way. If that bark had come across me, I would have done my best to take her.

Q. Which bark?—A. The one that burned the vessels about George's Bank.

Q. The Alabama?—A. No; but an old bark—the Tacony.

Q. She was a Southern cruiser?—A. I do not know that, but I meant to have taken her if I could. The fact is, I was all cut and dried for her. The people of Halifax all came down to look at my vessel. I had a six-pounder on board, and 24 rounds of round shot, and 24 rounds of grape, and bags of powder, and everything else required; while each man had a cutlass and a revolver. I paid \$800 for that outfit.

Q. When was this?—A. It was in 1863.

Q. Your men were afraid of going back to your coast lest they should be drafted into the Northern army?—A. Yes.

Q. And you were afraid of being captured by this Southern cruiser?—A. I was not afraid, not a bit.

Q. Well, lest you should be so captured, you armed yourself to show fight?—A. Yes, I did.

Q. You had no other object; you did not intend to fight any vessels except Southern cruisers?—A. No, of course not. I intended to go along peaceably if I was left alone.

Q. You told Mr. Trescot that, though the fisheries on your coast are better than those in the gulf, you preferred to go to the gulf in order to keep your crews together?—A. That is so.

Q. Was not that a great convenience to you?—A. Yes; and besides we thus got clear of the fogs which prevail a great deal on our coast during the summer. After we get through Canso, into North Bay, we meet with little fog.

Q. Have you any fog on your coast in winter?—A. Yes, sometimes; but not very often.

Q. It is a stormy place to fish in winter, on your coast?—A. Sometimes it is and sometimes it is not.

Q. But taking the season through, it is a stormy coast?—A. All coasts are stormy in winter; but our coast is not then so stormy as the coast around the British Provinces and in the gulf.

Q. A large portion of the gulf freezes up in winter?—A. Yes; but I have been in the gulf till near Christmas for produce on the north side of Prince Edward Island.

Q. Without getting frozen up?—A. I did not get frozen up. I think I left Malpeque on the 17th of November.

Q. Is not the weather on your coast in winter very hard on the rigging of vessels—on the sails, and so on?—A. Yes.

Q. It is a good deal harder on them than is summer or fall weather in the bay, before the stormy season sets in?—A. Certainly; more wear and tear is suffered in this regard in winter than in summer on any coast.

Q. You admit, then, that if it was not for the bay fishing in your time, you could not have kept the crews together, as you could not do so on your own coast?—A. Well, that was one reason why I went to the bay; when we lost a man on our shore we could get another, but this occasioned loss of time.

Q. You could not keep your crews there?—A. When we would lose one we could find another to replace him, but this caused loss of time.

Q. And time is money?—A. Of course.

Q. Therefore you made more money by taking your crews to the gulf than you could have made if you had fished on your shore, losing and replacing men the while?—A. I suppose that sometimes we would thus make more money and sometimes we would not; we had to run the risk of it.

Q. You saved yourself inconvenience and came to the gulf?—A. I used to go there some seasons, when I had a mind to do so.

Q. Did you really send your vessels or come to the gulf knowing that you could thus make more money than if you fished on your own coast?—A. I never sent a vessel into North Bay; I let the skipper do as he wished in this respect. He was his own guide, and he could go to the gulf if he liked, or fish on our shore, according to his preference; he was master of the vessel, and I fitted her out.

Q. Is that the rule of that particular trade, to allow the master to go and fish where he pleases?—A. As a general thing, yes.

Q. Without the owner controlling him at all?—A. Well, I made it a rule, at any rate, to do so. When I went for other people I went just where I had a mind to. I went just where I thought I could do best.

Q. And the owner never attempted to control you in this regard?—A. No; if he had, I would have left his vessel.

Q. Was your practice in this respect the usual practice of other skippers?—A. I presume so, but I do not know that it was; I know, however, that I did so myself.

Q. Have the skippers an interest in the vessels?—A. Most of the skippers of Cape Ann, for the last few years, have been part owners to the extent of $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{8}$, or something like that, and the owner of the vessel will think that the captain would go where the most money is to be made, or try to do so, and so the skippers are allowed to be the judges in this relation.

Q. Therefore it is to be presumed that the captains who have gone to the gulf have done so because they could make more money by fishing there than by fishing on your coast?—A. Certainly; that is the reason why I went to the United States—because I could do better there than here.

Q. You will admit, at all events, that coming to the bay is a convenience with respect to keeping the crews together? The gulf fishery is an important fishery to the Americans?—A. It was so for a number of years, but this is not the case at the present time, from what I have learned.

Q. You do not pretend to know anything about this matter since 1868?—A. I know the result of the fisheries from the figures in the papers, and I know what is going on at Cape Ann.

Q. But figures sometimes do not stand investigation?—A. Figures, they say, always tell the truth; "figures cannot lie."

Q. By coming to the bay you also avoided the fogs in summer on your coast?—A. Yes.

Q. I believe that either there is no fog at all or very little fog in the Bay of St. Lawrence during the summer?—A. There is then very little of it.

Q. You have been there from 1837?—A. No, from 1836.

Q. Up to 1868, off and on, almost every year?—A. Yes.

Q. And during that time you saw very little fog in the bay?—A. No, not a great deal.

Q. What was the duration of the longest fog you ever saw in the bay?—A. I could not tell you. Sometimes the fog lasted for twelve hours, but I do not know that it continued longer than that; such is not to my knowledge, as far as I can recollect, but it might have been longer sometimes.

Q. It was of very rare occurrence that the fog lasted longer?—A. I think so. We very rarely saw a fog after we were once in the bay; up by the island and past East Point and up on Banks Orphan and Bradley, and such like, you would have very little fog.

Q. Were you in the bay in 1851?—A. Yes; I then made two trips.

Q. You must have been in the bay most of that season?—A. Well?

Q. You were in the bay in 1851 and 1853; do you recollect of seeing any fog at all there during either of these years? In 1853 you were in the Highland Lass?—A. In 1851 I was in the Alexander.

Q. In 1851 you made two trips?—A. I did not go home with my first trip; I landed it with Mr. Martel, at Arichat; I had not time to go home, and so I landed 314 barrels there, and he advanced me the money to fit out.

Q. In that season you were two trips in the bay, during the whole of the summer and fall; when did you go out in the fall?—A. I think I left home on the 7th of July; I usually left home on my fishing trips on the 7th of July, and I think that I arrived home about the 18th or the 20th of October.

Q. You were in the bay during all the summer and a large portion of the fall; do you recollect any one day during this period when you saw a fog in the bay in 1851?—A. Well, I cannot say that it was then foggy, but there was a most almighty smoke. It was so smoky that you could not see anything for three, four, or five days; and owing to this fact that year I got out of the mackerel, and getting behindhand, I had to land those mackerel and could not go home.

Q. Where did this smoke come from?—A. From all round; from fires at Miramichi and on the West Shore, and up that way; the smoke was so dense that you could not see half a mile for three, four, or five days, all the way from North Cape over to Escuminac.

Q. I suppose that no person with eyes in his head could help knowing the difference between that and fog?—A. Certainly; there was smoke but no fog.

Q. Did that smoke hurt your rigging in any way?—A. No; the only way in which it hurt us was by preventing us getting any mackerel.

Q. Do you recollect having seen any fog in the bay in 1853?—A. O, well, these are questions that I could not answer correctly, and I do not want to answer unless I can do so. We do not care anything at all about fogs, and though it might be foggy sometimes, we would not think anything about it, or remark it. There is nothing in a fog that would be thought of importance.

Q. You landed these mackerel at Arichat?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you afterwards take them away?—A. Yes; but not until I had taken to Gloucester the 214 barrels which I caught on my second trip. I then returned to Arichat, took these 314 barrels on board, paid charges, and came home.

Q. Did not the landing of these mackerel at Arichat enable you to come back to the bay and take another fare?—A. Well, it enabled me to go back; but the heft of the vessels went home. I got out of the mackerel on account of the smoke.

Q. The right of so landing cargoes, or the exercise of this privilege, really does enable you to make a second and third trip, as the case may be?—A. I think that if such landing was not practiced it would be money in our pockets; if we did not so land mackerel it would be money in the owners' pockets.

Q. Does it enable you to make extra trips, or more trips than would otherwise be the case?—A. Well, I should suppose that it would give us a little more time in the bay.

Q. And more opportunity for catching fish?—A. It gives us perhaps 10 days more. I have made the passage from Canso home and back again, and packed my mackerel, in 10 days.

Q. But you would not put that time forward as a specimen voyage?—A. No.

Q. How long would it take ordinarily to make this passage?—A. Well, two weeks or fifteen days would give ample time to go and come back and pack the mackerel, and fit out.

Q. Would not a fortnight in the height of the fishing season be a very important period, particularly if mackerel were then plentiful?—A. Mackerel might be plentiful in bad weather.

Q. I mean during good fishing, with all the circumstances favorable for it?—A. If all the circumstances were favorable, I could load one of these vessels in five days.

Q. And those five days would then be very important?—A. Yes; in five days I could fill up, if the mackerel were just as I wanted them; but it would be pretty hard to get them in that way.

Q. Are not mackerel fish that move about the bay from place to place?—A. Yes.

Q. Sometimes they go inshore and sometimes they go out?—A. During the first part of the year they go to the nor'ard, but after September they move right round and come to the southward, school after school—that is their track, and the man who keeps the best run of the mackerel gets the most of them.

Q. Can you swear that they come southward?—A. No; but I know the way in which they are caught. Say they are on Banks Orphan and Bradley, then the next thing they will be gone to North Cape, and next they will perhaps be down square off East Point; and they will go along in that way.

Q. There are no marks about mackerel by means of which they may be distinguished?—A. Not a bit of it; they may be caught off North Cape day after day, and then sink, and afterward rise and sink again, leaving no sight of them anywhere; when they come up, we may get a good day's work, 75 barrels or such like for perhaps two or three days; and he who keeps the best run of their movements, will obtain the best share of the fish.

Q. The mackerel which are caught on Banks Orphan and Bradley, and are afterward lost sight of, you cannot pretend to say you recognize as the same fish, in the fish which afterward rise up off North Cape and

East Cape?—A. Well, I cannot identify them as the same; but that is the way in which we catch them, whether they are the same mackerel or not.

Q. Can you undertake to say that there are not different schools of mackerel?—A. Of course not. I cannot tell you that.

Q. Did you ever take them early in the spring when they are very poor?—A. Well, one year I went out in the Abigail for early mackerel into North Bay; but that is the only year I did so. This was in 1851. I then fished on Banks Orphan and Bradley.

Q. You did not get into the bay that year until the middle of July?—A. In the Abigail?

Q. In 1851 you said you left home on the 7th of July?—A. In some vessels I left home on that date; but I left in that vessel in June.

Q. I think you told me that you made two trips to the bay that year?—A. I did.

Q. And that you left home on the 7th of July?—A. I said the 7th of July here, but I did not say the 7th of July yesterday. I did not say anything about the 7th of July, except to-day. I left on the 7th of July in the Rose Skerritt, and in the Oliver Cromwell, and for a number of years I left Gloucester on that date.

Q. When was this?—A. I went out in the Abigail in June, 1851.

Q. You told me previously that in 1851 you made two trips and started on the 7th of July?—A. Well, then, we will rectify that; I went in June in the Abigail, and got my trip on Banks Orphan and Bradley; and my second trip, 75 barrels, in the bend of the island.

Q. That was very early?—A. I went very early for poor mackerel.

Q. That is the season when the mackerel are thin?—A. Yes; we call them leather-bellies; they are full of spawn, and mackerel number threes large, but nothing except number threes.

Q. You do not catch number ones during that part of the season?—A. No.

Q. The best mackerel are caught in the fall?—A. You can get as good mackerel along in the last of August and in September as at any time.

Q. Did you ever look at the eyes of those fish which you call by that elegant and I dare say appropriate name, to see whether there was a film over them?—A. Well, a maxim is current among fishermen, that when the scale comes off their eyes they are apt to bite.

Q. You do know of this, then?—A. I do not know that the film exists; I have looked a number of times, but I could never perceive whether the scales were off or not.

Q. How long is it since you first heard of their having scales on their eyes?—A. O, since I first went to the United States.

Q. And as soon as these scales come off they are ready to bite?—A. That is the assertion which is made, but I do not know whether it is the case or not.

Q. Did any person ever start a theory to you, to give a reason why there should be scales over their eyes?—A. No; but I have heard old Mr. Attwood, of Provincetown, speak about it, though I cannot say whether he knows much about it or not. I never paid much attention to his statements.

Q. Do you think that Mr. Attwood is a little wild in his theories?—A. I do not know. I have often heard him speak about these things; of course what he said might all be so, but from my experience I do not think it; what he said went in at one ear and came out of the other, for my part, and that is about the heft I got of it.

Q. How did the idea about these scales become current among fishermen?—A. I suppose it was due to their talking the matter over. When mackerel do not bite very well they will ask whether the scales are off their eyes or not, and say that when the scales are off they will have a fair catch; and they are always very anxious to examine the fish to see whether the scales are off.

Q. Could they see whether this was the case or not?—A. I do not know that they could.

Q. How do you suppose that the idea started?—A. I could not tell you.

Q. This idea is general, at any rate?—A. It was talked about among the fishermen.

Q. And generally believed among fishermen?—A. I cannot say; but I do not believe in it, for one.

Q. But you are not all the fishermen?—A. Of course not; but I do not believe in it. I cannot speak in this regard for others. I know, however, that it was the general talk among fishermen, and I have seen a great many examine the fish to see whether the scales were off; they wait for this patiently, hoping to get a good deck of mackerel when the scales come off.

Q. How many barrels of flour would you put on board of the fishing vessel with 16 men, leaving Gloucester?—A. Eleven or twelve.

Q. What kind of flour would this be?—A. It would generally be the best.

Q. What would it cost?—A. From \$9 to \$10 a barrel.

Q. That was during the war?—A. And before the war.

Q. You do not mean to say that this was the case before the war?—A. It was sometimes \$8 a barrel. The price varied.

Q. Do you not know that the price was nearer \$5 than \$8?—A. The price might have been \$5 here, but this was not the case up with us. The price has never been \$5 a barrel since I have been in the States.

Q. Or \$6 or \$7?—A. I have paid \$7, \$8, and \$9 a barrel for it, and so on; we do not buy poor trash, but the best flour. The best flour makes the best bread, and is the cheapest in the end.

Q. How much does coal cost?—A. We did not use to take coal with us at all; but of late years it has been taken.

Q. What kind of coal is generally taken?—A. Hard coal.

Q. What do you pay for it?—A. The price varies from \$7 to \$8 a ton.

Q. That must surely have been the price in American currency, when greenbacks were at a considerable discount?—A. Yes.

Q. Because the hard coal used in these provinces comes from the States?—A. Certainly; we burn it mostly. I never took it with me but one or two years, and that was when I was in the Scotland.

Q. If we can get such coal here at \$5 a ton, how is it that the prices of it in the States is \$6 or \$7?—A. It comes to us from Philadelphia in freighters, and we pay \$5, \$6, and \$7 a ton for it.

Q. Can it be possible that you pay more for this coal in your own country than we do here?—A. Yes; this coal is worth \$6 a ton to-day in the United States. I have paid \$6 and \$6.50, and \$6.25 is the price on which I have agreed for this winter's supply.

Q. How many tons of coal would you take on a vessel?—A. No more than five, at any rate.

Q. Where have you obtained your wood?—A. Generally at Canso; we always made a point of doing so.

Q. Because it is cheap at Canso?—A. Yes.

Q. What is it a cord there?—A. \$3 for about seven feet; they call that a cord down there.

Q. During your experience in the bay, what was the highest price you paid for a cord of wood?—A. \$3 to my knowledge.

Q. Did you ever fish very much within the limits in the bay, after the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, in 1866?—A. I have tried inshore, but I never found that I could do anything there. I invariably did better off shore.

Q. Was this because you had to watch the cutters?—A. No; I did not have to watch them when we had reciprocity.

Q. I am speaking of the time when this treaty was abrogated; from 1866 to 1868, did you fish a great deal inshore without licenses?—A. No, I did not. I did not fish inshore while I was in the Scotland at all. I got the heft of my mackerel around the Magdalen Islands.

Q. Do you mean to say that you never fished inshore at all?—A. I have tried inshore, but I never got mackerel there of any account.

Q. These three years followed the close of the American war?—A. Yes.

Q. And then you were not obliged to be armed to the teeth as before?—A. No.

Q. Did any cutters ever seize or try to seize you?—A. In those years?

Q. Yes.—A. No.

Q. But previously?—A. Yes.

Q. When?—A. In 1851.

Q. Where were you seized in 1851?—A. I was not seized. I never was seized.

Q. Was any attempt made to seize you?—A. Yes.

Q. Where were you then fishing?—A. It was at the last of my trip when I got those 214 barrels.

Q. Where were you fishing?—A. Wide off Margaree—between that and Cheticamp.

Q. Which cutter attempted to seize you?—A. A man named Cutler, from Guysborough, was there in a little pinkey; he was a spy, and he used to make compromises when vessels got a good deck of mackerel anywhere and were dressing them inshore. He would take 20 or 10 barrels, making as good a bargain as he could. This Cutler was in this pinkey, and I was at anchor under Margaree Island at the time.

Q. Were you lying close inshore?—A. I was at anchor and not fishing.

Q. Lying close inshore?—A. Yes, right close in under Margaree for shelter. He did not attempt to take me; if he had I would have given him a clout, but he took another vessel, the Harp, Captain Andrews. I kept a watch all night, but they did not come alongside; if they had, we would have given them grape-shot, I bet.

Q. Had you grape-shot on board?—A. We had a gun loaded with slugs, or something of that sort.

Q. In fact, then, you were never boarded by a customs or seizing officer?—A. I was boarded by an officer who came for light-money, at Little Canso, that same year.

Q. Did you pay the light-money?—A. No.

Q. Why?—A. Because this man was not authorized to receive it.

Q. What did you do?—A. I hove him into his boat, of course, and got rid of him.

Q. You knew that the light-money was due?—A. Certainly; and I was willing to pay it, had the right man come for it.

Q. Did he represent himself to be a custom-house officer?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you ask him for his authority?—A. Yes.

Q. And did he show it?—A. No.

Q. And then you threw him overboard?—A. I told him he had to leave, and seeing he would not go, I seized him by the naps of the neck and the breeches and put him into his boat. He was bound to take me because I had landed a poor girl.

Q. Was this girl contraband?—A. Yes, I suppose they called her so at any rate. I do not know that she is now in town, but she became lawyer Blanchard's wife afterward. I merely took her on board as a passenger, and landed her. Afterward I was fired at and chased by three cutters.

Q. For putting this officer overboard?—A. No, I did not put him overboard, but I put him into his boat.

Q. In lawyer's phrase, did you gently lay hands on him?—A. I put him in his boat in the shortest way. He stripped off and said it would take a man to handle him, but I made up my mind that he should not stop, though I did not want to fight; still, I was well able to take my own part. I talked with him and told him that I had merely landed a poor girl with her effects, a trunk and a bandbox, &c.; but this would not do him. When he came aboard he asked, "Who is master of this vessel?" Says I, "I am for lack of a better." Says he, "I seize this vessel," and with red chalk he put the King's broad R on the mainmast. He wanted the jib hauled down in order to have the boat taken on board—we had not come to an anchor—but I told him that he would have to wait a while. Finally he came down below and I took the papers out of a canister; and being a little excited, of course, in hauling off the cover a receipt for light-dues, which I had paid that year, dropped on the fore-castle floor. He picked it up and said he would give me a receipt on the back of it. Says I, "Who are you?" He answered "I am Mr. Bigelow, the light-collector." "Well," says I, "where are your documents?" Says he, "I have left them ashore." "Then," says I, "go ashore, you vagabond, you have no business here." Says he, "Won't you pay me?" "Not a red cent," says I; "out with you." He cried out, "Put the helm down." Says I, "Put the helm up"; but he came pretty near shoving us ashore, as we were within 10 fathoms of the rocks. Says he, "Who are you?" I said, "I am Mr. Pattillo." Says he, "You vagabond, I know the Pattillos." "Well," says I, "then you must know me, for there are only two of us." Says he, "I will take you anyhow; I will have a cutter from Big Canso. There will be a man-of-war there; and if there is not a man-of-war, there will be a cutter; and if there is not a cutter I will raise the militia, for I am bound to take you." I asked him if he meant to do all that, and he said he was just the man to do it. I seized him to put him back into his boat, and he stripped off and told me that it took a man to handle him; with that I made a lunge at him, and jumped 10 feet. If he had not avoided me, I would have taken the head off his body. I then seized him and chucked him into his boat. Then three cutters came down and chased me.

Q. But they did not catch you?—A. No; that was the time when they chased me at Port Hood and around there, and fired 11 balls—12-pounders—at me, one boring her right through and through. The first shot flew about 6 feet over my head, through the mainsail; the next went right under the bends, through a plank, cut the timber, and went through a sail and into the main-boom; the next struck on the port side, taking a piece of about 5 or 6 inches out of the bulwarks, and striking the main chains; the next knocked a piece off the forward part of the main-mast,

about 4 inches above the saddle of the main-boom; and the next struck in the windlass-bit; five shots struck us, and we were chased between 6 and 7 miles.

Q. When did you go to Newfoundland for bait?—A. I was there, in Fortune Bay, in the Tiger. I was on the first vessel that ever got herrings there.

Q. Did you get the fish right inshore?—A. Yes, we got them through the ice; I was frozen in.

Q. When was this?—A. I left Cape Cod on this trip in 1838, and I arrived home again in 1839.

Q. Did you stay during the winter at Fortune Bay?—A. Yes.

Q. You got a cargo through the ice?—A. Yes, up at the head of the bay.

Q. Inshore?—A. Yes, right inshore. An army of 30 men, all armed to the teeth, came there to take us—five men and a black boy; but I drove the whole calabash of them off.

Q. You succeeded in securing a cargo, and in getting safe home?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you sell any of your cargo before you left?—A. No.

Q. Did you lose your papers?—A. Yes; they were taken from me. I handed them to the man who came to see about it, when I went on the ice. He said his name was Gadin, and that he came from Harbor Briton, on my asking who he was; I then asked to see his documents, and he handed them to me. I then knew what I had to do, and I gave him my papers; but I was too honest; I ought to have kept possession of his documents until he had handed me back my papers, but did not do so. Finally, I requested him to give me my papers, but he went off with his army.

Q. You staid all winter there?—A. We stopped there as long as we could, and took herring out of the ice. We got out of the ice on the 17th of April and reached home on the 14th of May.

No. 68.

Prof. SPENCER F. BAIRD, assistant secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, and United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn, and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. It is not necessary, of course, to ask this witness any questions to show his position or general acquaintance with and knowledge of the subject. I would like, however, to have you state, if you please, as I am going to give, by and by, some of the results of your inquiries—I would like to have you state particularly how you have obtained, and from what sources you have obtained, information respecting the fisheries of late, besides what you have studied in books.—Answer. I have been in the habit for five years past of spending from two to three months on the sea-coast, for the purpose of prosecuting inquiries into the condition of the fisheries, to determine whether, as alleged, the American coast fisheries have been decreasing, and to ascertain what steps, if any, might be adopted to remedy the difficulty, if found. I have, in pursuance of that work, established stations in successive years at Eastport, Portland, Salem, Woods Holl, on the south coast of New England, and at Noank. And I have had with me a force of experts, naturalists, and gentlemen interested in the biology of fishes, and have endeavored to

gather such information as I could, from my own personal observation, and that of my colleagues, as well as by inquiries from fishermen and others whom I have met.

Q. How far have you prosecuted that personal inquiry of the fishermen and persons engaged in the fisheries?—A. I have, by the help of a phonographic secretary, taken the testimony of many hundreds of fishermen along the coast in reference principally to questions in the natural history of fishes. The facts as to the statistics of the fisheries have come out incidentally, and were not the original object of my inquiry. I was interested more in determining what kinds of fish we had, what natural, physical, or moral causes influenced them, and what would probably be the result of these causes, and how any evil influences could be remedied.

Q. Then have you employed fishermen to examine and make inquiries?—A. I have had in my employ several men, some for the whole year, or several years in succession, and others for a part of the year, who have taken a series of printed questions that I prepared in regard to the natural history of fishes and pursued these inquiries in regions where I myself could not go conveniently, especially in the winter season or in the early spring.

Q. Then you issued some printed circulars?—A. Yes; a great many thousand blanks, inviting responses, and I have had a reasonable percentage of returns, of which I consider a fair percentage more or less reliable. But, as a general rule, as everybody knows, fishermen know less about fish than they do about anything else. That is to say, they know how to catch fish and the practical details of their business, but of their natural history they know very little. About such questions as the time of their migration, the rate of their growth, their spawning seasons, and other matters, only here and there will you find a man who has observed and noted the facts closely enough to be able to answer your questions.

Q. You employed some such persons?—A. I have one man especially, a skilled fisherman, resident on the south coast of New England, and whom I employ to visit the different fishing stations and gather statistics.

Q. Have you any of those circulars about you?—A. I have one. (Circular produced.)

Q. (Reading circular.) There are something like nearly ninety different questions. Under one head you require the man's name, &c. Then as to the distribution of fishes: what kind of fish he has in his neighborhood, their abundance, migrations, movements, food, relationships, reproduction, artificial culture, diseases, pursuits, capture, their economical value, application, &c.—A. That circular was issued in 1871. I have issued a great many editions of it. Then I have another circular which refers more particularly to the coast and river fisheries. I have only issued this within the present year.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Was that about the time, Professor?—A. Yes; the first thing I did was to distribute these questions in order to get as much information as I could. I have some eight or ten special circulars, but these are the ones I have most used. I have issued special circulars for the cod and mackerel and menhaden, but of these I have not copies with me.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Here (referring to circular spoken of as issued during the present

year) you have the home fisheries, the river fisheries; they don't come directly under our cognizance.—A. These are the coast and river fisheries particularly.

Q. Not the deep sea?—A. Only incidentally. They are sea coast fish, but not outside. There is a schedule of the principal fish marketed in the Boston market. My object was to get the number of pounds of these fish taken in the vicinity of the person to whom the circular was given.

Q. You think these have been pretty fully answered?—A. I have a great many answers.

Q. And from your information, which you gather as you go about, from what is sent to you by the return of these circulars, and from the persons employed by you, it has been your business to make yourself fully acquainted with the subject?—A. Yes; I have, of course, used what published material I have found. I found a great deal of value in the reports of the Canadian fisheries. What little I know of the fisheries in Canada I have learned from these documents.

Q. Wherever there are documents published by the United States you have them?—A. Yes; I have them; and I have European documents, English, and Norwegian, &c. I believe I have everything.

Q. I will question you first about codfish. I want you to state what is your opinion about the cod as a fish for all sorts of commercial purposes, as compared with others.—A. I think the cod stands at the head of fish at the present day. There is no fish that furnishes food to so many people, the production of which is of so much importance, or which is applied to such a variety of purposes. The commercial yield is very great, and its capture is the main occupation of a large portion of the inhabitants of the sea-coast region of the Northern Hemisphere.

Q. Besides as an article of food, either fresh or salted, what other purposes does it serve?—A. Well, it is applied to a great many purposes by different nations. It is used, of course, as food in the different modes of preparation. Particular parts are used as food, other than the muscles. The sounds are used as food, converted into gelatine, and in the form of isinglass. They serve a great variety of purposes. The roes are used as food and bait for fish. The skin is tanned for leather and clothing. A great many nations dress very largely in the skins of cod and salmon. And the fish is dried and used as food for cattle in Iceland and Norway. The bones are used as fuel in some places; and, of course, the oil is used for medicine, and for the various purposes to which animal oils are applied. There is scarcely any part that is not valuable. The offal, in Norway, is converted into a valuable manure. Every part is called into play.

Q. The bones?—A. They are burned as fuel, as well as eaten by dogs, or converted into fertilizers.

Q. It is not, probably, applied in the United States to all the uses you have specified?—A. No; I don't think the skin is used as clothing in the United States, but it makes an admirable leather for shoes, and makes very nice slippers. We have in Washington quite a large number of articles made from the skins, as used in Alaska, the Aleutian Islands, and in Siberia.

Q. You think they can be used?—A. I have no doubt in the course of years the skin will be utilized very largely. In fact, I may remark, that at the late exhibition at the Westminster Aquarium, among the special articles exhibited were shoes made from leather of the codfish, furnished by an exhibitor from Christiania.

Q. You think it is the foremost fish?—A. I think it is. There is none

that furnishes so important an industry or which is so abundantly or widely disseminated.

Q. What is the geographical distribution of the cod?—A. There are quite a number of species of the cod, some characterized by certain peculiarities and some by others. The cod in the North Pacific is different from that in the North Atlantic. Both are, however, codfish, and no one could mistake them for anything else but cod. In the Atlantic the cod are found on the American side from the Winter Quarter Shoals, on the coast of Virginia; that is the most southern point I have traced it to; from that indefinitely to the northward. It is found everywhere upon the coast, in the Bay of Fundy, the Bay of St. Lawrence, the Labrador and Newfoundland, on the Grand Bank, and many other places. The European species, although by some considered distinct from ours, probably have a geographical range equally extensive. I believe they are not in Spitzbergen.

Q. What is the most important locality?—A. Probably the most important single locality that furnishes the greatest amount of fish with the least possible labor in the shortest possible time is that in the vicinity of the Lofoden Islands, on the northwest coast of Norway. That is a region where usually twenty-five millions of fish are taken in three months by some twenty-five thousand men. The Dogger Bank, in the North Sea, is another European locality. In America the most extensive stores of cod are found, I suppose, on the Grand Banks and the Georges. They are found, perhaps, also on the great banks off the coast of Labrador, twenty or thirty miles off the coast, extending for hundreds of miles.

Q. Now give the Commission some notion of the abundance of codfish.—A. Well, I have covered that point in my reply to the previous question. It is found in the greater part of those regions at some portion of the year. It is usually more abundant in the spring or summer, autumn or winter, in each locality, in numbers only to be measured by the ability of man to capture.

Q. What do you say of their migrations?—A. The cod is a fish the migrations of which cannot be followed readily, because it is a deep-sea fish and does not show on the surface as the mackerel and herring; but so far as we can ascertain, there is a partial migration, at least some of the fish don't seem to remain in the same localities the year round. They change their situation in search of food, or in consequence of the variations in the temperature, the percentage of salt in the water, or some other cause. In the south of New England, south of Cape Cod, the fishing is largely off shore. That is to say, the fish are off the coast in the cooler water in the summer, and as the temperature falls approaching autumn, and the shores are cooled down to a certain degree, they come in and are taken within a few miles of the coast. In the northern waters, as far as I can understand from the writings of Prof. Hind, the fish generally go off shore in the winter-time, excepting on the south side of Newfoundland, where, I am informed, they maintain their stay, or else come in in large abundance; but in the Bay of Fundy, on the coast of Maine, and still further north, they don't remain as close to the shore in winter as in other seasons.

Q. Take them as a whole, then, they are a deep-sea fish. I don't mean the deep sea as distinguished from the Banks?—A. An outside fish? Well, they are to a very considerable extent. The largest catches are taken off shore, and what are taken inshore are in specially favored localities, perhaps on the coast of Labrador, and possibly off Newfound-

land. They bear a small proportion generally to what is taken outside, where the conveniences of attack and approach are greater.

Q. Now, what is known about the spawning-grounds of codfish?—A. We lack positive information in regard to the spawning-grounds of this fish, except that we know single localities. We know the Lofodon Islands are great spawning-grounds. We know that the fish come there almost exclusively for the purpose of spawning. They are not there in the ordinary times of the year. They come in December and January, and spawn in February and March, and are there in most overwhelming abundance.

Q. But on the coast of America?—A. We know there is one large spawning-ground in Cape Cod Bay.

Q. You mean Massachusetts Bay inside?—A. Yes; there is said to be there a long reef about 4 miles wide and about 20 miles long, and the cod go in there and furnish a very important winter fishery.

Q. Then, I presume, there are similar spots along the whole American coast?—A. Probably they spawn at the Georges, and undoubtedly in a great many localities in the Bay of St. Lawrence and on the Banks, although I cannot speak of that, because I haven't had an opportunity of knowing.

Q. What are the relations of cod to other fish?—A. They are friends and enemies. They are warriors and victims. They are extremely voracious, and devour everything that is small enough, without any kind of consideration, and in turn are consumed in all their stages by such fish as can master them. The adult fish are principally interfered with by horse-mackerel, the bluefish, the porpoise, and by sharks, and anything else big enough to swallow them, instead of being swallowed by them. It is merely a question of size whether the codfish is the active or passive agent.

Q. Now, what fish do they devour mostly?—A. They eat everything, but they live very largely on herring or mackerel, or any of the small fish found on the sea bottoms. They devour crabs and small lobsters. The stomach of the cod is one of the best dredges you can have. You find there sometimes rare specimens that are never found elsewhere.

Q. Do they digest the shells?—A. No, they digest the nutriment and then throw out the shells. Sometimes you find the shells packed solid one inside of another like saucers in a pile. The wonder is how they empty them out.

Q. But they do?—A. I suppose they must.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. They devour them whole and then when the meat is digested they eject the shells?—A. The mouth is quite large, and the shell goes out as easily as it goes in.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. What do you think are the seasons for spawning on the American coast?—A. I presume that, like many other fish, they may spawn over quite a range of time. But, so far as our own observation on the American coast goes, their season is from November until March. In Cape Cod Bay they spawn about December and January. I have no doubt, however, that farther north, where the changes of temperature are not so abrupt, they may spawn more irregularly, and have only an interval of a few months when there is no spawning.

Q. Will you describe this spawn so as to show the prolific nature of the fish?—A. The cod is one of the brag fish in regard to spawning. That is, we hear of ordinary multiplication of fish by that process, but

the cod has been found to contain from three to seven million eggs by actual count. Turbot, I think, are one of the very few fish that can beat it. They run up to twelve millions.

Q. We do not have the real turbot?—A. No. From three to five million might be considered a fair annual estimate of the eggs of the codfish. From three to five millions of ripe eggs have been found in the ovary of one single cod, and more.

Q. What becomes of these eggs when discharged?—A. The question of the spawning places for codfish has been one that was originally very uncertain. The researches of naturalists have shown that these eggs are discharged in the open sea on the Lofoden Banks. Some miles from the shore they can be found floating at the surface, and can be taken up by the bushel in towing nets. The eggs are very small, from one-twentieth to one-fiftieth of an inch in diameter, and they have a small globule of oil to make them float.

Q. Now, do these eggs all produce fish unless they are injured in some way?—No; there are a great many contingencies. It is not likely that a very large percentage will be fertilized by the male. There is always an uncertainty about that. Then, as they are floating in the water, every fish that may be fond of that kind of sustenance devours them very greedily, and by the time they are hatched out, a large percentage is destroyed in this way. Then, the young fry, while in a helpless state, are devoured in large numbers. I should think it extremely probable that not one hundred thousand out of the three millions—possibly not ten thousand—attain to a condition in which they are able to take care of themselves. It is entirely impossible to make any estimate. We know, however, from the analogy of other fish—from the facts in regard to salmon, shad, and that kind of fish we can make an approximation.

Q. These eggs rise to the surface?—A. They float at various distances from the surface down. Some are a little heavier and some a little lighter. I mean that they are not attached to the bottom. Their specific gravity is very nearly that of the water. Of course when the water is cold they will float better, because the density is greater, but when the water is warm they will sink.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Before you leave this subject I would like to ask whether the spawn are visible in the ocean, that is, cod-spawn. What is the color?—A. It is transparent, with a little spot of oil in one corner. You would not notice it under ordinary circumstances, but you might if you were looking for it.

Q. The ocean might be full and a common man would not see it?—A. Certainly.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Be kind enough now to tell us what are the principal modes of capturing cod?—A. The modes of capture vary with the regions. For commercial purposes, the fish are caught with hand-lines and the trawl-line, or long line as it should be called. It is taken very largely in gill-nets on the coast of Norway and in some other regions. I believe it is so taken on the coast of Labrador, but I don't think it is taken frequently on our own coast in nets.

Q. To what extent is the trawl-line used?—A. It is used all over the world. It is one of the oldest methods of catching fish.

Q. From your investigation, do you think the capture of fish generally, or codfish, or other kinds, by some contrivance like the trawl,

is as ancient as any other?—A. I know it is. The Indians, the Aleutian Islanders, have used them.

Q. That was not derived from us?—A. No. Travelers have found them in use when the first white men came among them. We have specimens in great number of the trawl of the native savage. Ours have only been brought in within the last five or six years. I don't think it is possible to fix the date of the first use of the trawl. They have been traced back to such a period that there is no possibility of saying that it was introduced by this man or known to that one.

Q. What are the advantages of the method of trawl-fishing for cod?—A. The alleged advantages, as far as I have heard them spoken of, are the larger yield of the fishery. The same number of men in the same time, and in the same locality, will catch a larger fare of fish with the trawl than with hand lines. Then they require less exposure of the fishermen. They can be set over night and left down through the day at times when the weather would be too inclement for hand-line fishing. Then it requires much less skillful fishermen to use the trawl than the hand lines. It is merely a matter of putting on the bait and throwing it overboard, and it does not require the delicate manipulation and skill that the hand-line fishing does, and therefore does not call into play to the same extent the functions of the practiced fisherman.

Q. Now, are there any disadvantages connected with the use of the trawl alleged or actual?—A. There are a great many accusations brought, against it. How far these are valid it is impossible for me to say. The principal objection I suppose is that it tempts all kinds of fish. One objection is that it takes fish that are too small size. They use a smaller hook than the ordinary hand lines, and they say it takes a great many unmarketable fish, which affects the supply. Then another complaint is that the fish being longer in the water are liable to be destroyed by the depredations of sharks, dogfish, and fish of that class. Another objection is that after the fish are caught the marketable fish, owing to their weight, slip off from the small hook and float away and are lost. Another objection is that they catch what they call mother fish, that is the parent fish, which some fishermen think should be left to reproduce their kind.

Q. If they are taken after depositing their spawn you only lose one fish?—A. Yes; but it is probable, judging from the testimony of fishermen, that the fish can be taken during their spawning season with a trawl when they will not bite a hook. As a general thing very few will bite on the ordinary line, but the trawl bait is said to be attractive to them, and the fish are believed to be more likely to take the bait at that time from a trawl than from a hook on an ordinary line.

Q. Well, taking the reasons given both ways, what conclusion have you come to about the use of the trawl for cod-fishing?—A. Well, it is just one of the wholesale modes of capture, which it is difficult to avoid, because the tendency is to centralize, to accomplish the same work by less expenditure of money and of human force.

Q. Do you think it is a case for prohibition or regulation?—A. I don't see how it can be either prohibited or regulated. I hardly see. Of course I have had no practical experience. I may say that the trawl is used very much less on the coast of America than on the coast of England and of Europe generally, and I have failed to find anywhere in the English writers or in the testimony of the British Fishery Commission any complaint there such as occurs in America. There is a great complaint there against what is called the beam-trawl. When they speak of the trawl they don't mean what we mean. What they refer to is a trawl

such as we use in our steamer to capture flounders and such fish. Wherever you see the word trawl used by an English or European writer you must apply it to that large net that is dragged behind the vessel along the bottom of the sea. The word trawl is never applied in Europe to the line, and, therefore, there is a great deal of vagueness and error involved in the consideration of the subject unless you know what the particular speaker or witness means by a trawl. But speaking of the long line, which is the general term, or bultow, I have failed to find in the reports of the British Fishery Commission any complaint by anybody except three cases of complaint against the trawl-line or long line. One was that it destroyed the young fish, and the others were that they interfered with the nets. They complained that the trammel net especially, which is a particular kind used in England, was fouled by these lines and injured.

Q. On the other hand, the net was in the way of the trawl?—A. No; the trawl was in the way of the nets. The trawlers didn't care about the net, but the net fishermen did complain of the trawl. But I have looked carefully to find whether there was any complaint against that line, and I haven't found it. There may be, but I am quite confident it has not assumed anything like the antagonistic features and impression of magnitude that it has in the United States and America generally.

Q. We mean by the trawl a long line weighted or anchored which sinks to the bottom and has—— A. It has branches three feet long. That is called a long line or bultow.

Q. Then at intervals there are buoys?—A. Yes.

Q. To show the position. They are usually in a straight line?—A. In Europe there are generally several shorter lines united in one long line, so much so that on the coast of Great Britain they have a line of trawls six or eight miles in length. In America the trawling on the Banks is generally by means of five shorter lines radiating from the vessel, but in England the trawling is done generally on a large scale, without row-boats, directly from a vessel of forty or sixty tons, and the entire series of lines is united in one and sunk.

Q. They are hauled in from aboard the vessel, and not from a boat at all?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, what do they call that which we call a trawl, if it is used at all?—A. They call it a long line or bultow.

Q. What bait do you find to be the best for codfish?—A. Well, I can't say I find any bait to be the best, because I never caught many fish, but I know that everything of an animal nature, and to some extent vegetable, has been used for the cod. Generally, in America, our bait consists of herring, menhaden, mackerel, a portion of the offal of the fish, sea-birds of various kinds, clams, squid, and the various species of shells, and in fact anything that can be got hold of.

Q. Well, now, what are the methods of preservation of this bait? We have heard of their using salt clams, &c. Has much attention been paid to the possibility of greater preservation of the bait than we have ever yet had?—A. Yes; the science of preserving bait, as well as of the preservation of fish on shipboard, is very low indeed, far below what can be applied, and I have no doubt will be applied, both in keeping fish for food and in keeping it for bait.

Q. Now, will you state what observation you have made respecting the method of preserving fresh bait from the start all the voyage through?—A. As a general rule it is now preserved, either by salting or freezing. Of course they keep it as long as it will remain without

spoiling, and when you have to carry it beyond that time, either ice it or salt it. Salting, of course, is a very simple process, but it alters materially the texture and taste to such a degree that fish or other bait that under certain circumstances is highly prized by the fish, is looked upon with a great deal of indifference when salted. Now, there are special methods of preserving the fish or bait by some chemical preparation, which preserves the fish without giving the saline taste. There are preparations by means of which oysters or clams or fish can be kept in solutions for six months without getting any appreciable taste, and without involving the slightest degree of deterioration or destruction. One process submitted to the group of judges of whom I was chairman, was exhibited by an experimenter who placed a great jar of oysters in our room prepared in that way. I think about the 1st of August those were placed in our room and they were kept there until the middle of September, for six weeks during the hottest portion of the centennial summer, and that was hot enough. At the end of that time we mustered up courage to pass judgment upon this preparation, and we tasted these oysters and could not find them affected. We would have preferred absolutely fresh oysters, but there was nothing repugnant to the sensibilities, and I believe we consumed the entire jar. And we gave the exhibitor, without any question, an award for an admirable new method. That man is now using that process on a very large scale in New York for the preservation of fish of all kinds, and he claims he can keep them any length of time and allow them to be used as fresh fish quite easily. I don't suppose any fisherman ever thought of using any preservative except salt.

Q. That is entirely experimental?—A. It is experimental, but it promises very well. Now, borax is one of the substances that will preserve animal matter a great deal better than salt and without changing the texture. Acetic acid is another preparation, or citric acid will keep fish a long time without any change of the quality, and by soaking it in fresh water for a little while the slightly acidulated taste will be removed. I don't believe a cod will know the difference between a clam preserved in that way and a fresh clam.

Q. Now, about ice. We know a good deal has been done in the way of preserving bait in ice. How far has that got?—A. It is a very crude and clumsy contrivance. They generally break up the ice into pieces about the size of pebble stones, or larger; then simply stratify the bait or fish with this ice, layer and layer about, until you fill up a certain depth or distance. The result is that if the bait can be kept two weeks in that method it is doing very well. They generally get a period of preservability of two weeks. The ice is continually melting and continually saturating the bait or fish with water, and a very slow process of decomposition or disorganization goes on until the fish becomes musty, flabby, and tasteless, unfit for the food of man or beast.

Q. Well, there is a newer method of preservation, is there not?—A. There is a better method than using ice. The method described by the Noank witness, by using what is equivalent to snow, allows the water to run off or to be sucked up as by a sponge. The mass being porous prevents the fish from becoming musty. But the coming methods of preserving bait are what are called the dry air process and the hard freezing process. In the dry air process you have your ice in large solid cakes in the upper part of the refrigerator and your substance to be preserved in the bottom. By a particular mode of adjusting the connection between the upper chamber and the lower there is a constant circulation of air by means of which all the moisture of the air is continually being

condensed on the ice, leaving that which envelops the bait or fish perfectly dry. Fish or any other animal substance will keep almost indefinitely in perfectly dry air about 40° or 45° , which can be attained very readily by means of this dry air apparatus. I had an instance of that in the case of a refrigerator filled with peaches, grapes, salmon, a leg of mutton, and some beefsteaks, with a great variety of other substances. At the end of four months in midsummer, in the Agricultural Building, these were in a perfectly sound and prepossessing condition. No one would have hesitated one moment to eat the beefsteaks, and one might be very glad of the chance at times to have it cooked. This refrigerator has been used between San Francisco and New York, and between Chicago and New York, where the trip has occupied a week or ten days, and they are now used on a very large scale, tons upon tons of grapes and pears being sent from San Francisco by this means. I had a cargo of fish-eggs brought from California to Chicago in a perfect condition. Another method is the hard frozen process. You use a freezing mixture of salt and ice powdered fine, this mixture producing a temperature of twenty degrees above zero, which can be kept up just as long as the occasion requires by keeping up the supply of ice and salt.

Q. How big is the refrigerator?—A. There is no limit to the size that may be used. They are made of enormous size for the purpose of preserving salmon, and in New York they keep all kinds of fish. I have been in and seen a cord of codfish, a cord of salmon, a cord of Spanish mackerel, and other fish piled up just like cord-wood, dry, hard, and firm, and retaining its qualities for an indefinite time.

Q. Well, can fish or animals be kept for an unlimited period if frozen in that way?—A. You may keep fish or animals hard dried frozen for a thousand years or ten thousand years perfectly well, and be assured there will be no change.

Q. Have geologists or paleontologists satisfied themselves of that by actual cases of the preservation of animal substances for a long period?—A. Yes; we have perfectly satisfactory evidence of that. About fifty years ago the carcass of a mammoth, frozen, was washed out from the gravel of the river Lena, I think, one of the rivers of Siberia, and was in such perfect preservation that the flesh was served as food for the dogs of the natives for over six months. Mr. Adams, a St. Petersburg merchant, came along on a trading expedition, and found it nearly consumed, and bought what was left of it for the St. Petersburg Academy of Science—the skeleton and some portion of flesh—which were preserved first in salt and afterward in alcohol. Well, we know the period of time that must have elapsed since the mammoth lived in the arctic circle must be very long. We know we can talk with perfect safety of ten thousand years. The geological estimate of it is anywhere from fifty to a hundred thousand years; we cannot tell. There is no unit of measure; we know it must have been some hundreds of thousands, and probably it would have remained in the same condition as much longer.

Q. Now, to come to a practical question, is this a mere matter of theory or of possible use? For instance, could this method be adapted to the preservation of bait for three or four months if necessary?—A. The only question, of course, is as to the expense. There is no question at all that bait of any kind can be kept indefinitely by that process. I do not think there would be the slightest difficulty in building a refrigerator on any ordinary fishing-vessel, cod or halibut, or other fishing vessel, that should keep with perfect ease all the bait necessary for a long voyage. I have made some inquiries as to the amount of ice, and I am informed by Mr. Blackford, of New York, who is one of the largest

operators of this mode, that to keep a room ten feet each way, or a thousand cubic feet, at a temperature of 20° above zero, would require about 2,000 pounds of ice and two bushels of salt per week. With that he thinks it could be done without any difficulty. Well, an ordinary vessel would require about seventy-five barrels of bait—an ordinary trawling-vessel. That would occupy a bulk something less than 600 feet, so that probably four and a half tons of ice a month would keep that fish. And it must be remembered that his estimate was for keeping fish in midsummer in New York. The fishing-vessels would require a smaller expenditure of ice, as these vessels would be surrounded by a colder temperature. A stock of ten to twenty tons would in all probability be amply sufficient both to replace the waste by melting and to preserve the bait.

Q. Have you any doubt that some method like that will be put into immediate and successful use, if there is sufficient call for it?—A. I have no doubt the experiment will be tried within a twelvemonth. Another method of preserving is by drying. Squid, for instance, and clams, and a great many other kinds of bait can be dried without using any appreciable chemical, and can be readily softened in water. I noticed lately in a Newfoundland paper a paragraph recommending that, in view of the fact that the squid are found there for a limited period of time, the people should go into the industry of drying squid for bait, so that it would always be available for the purpose of cod-fishing. I think the suggestion is an excellent one, and I have no doubt it will be carried out.

Q. Now, what is the supply of bait for codfish on the American coast?—A. Well, as the codfish eats everything, there is a pretty abundant stock to call upon. Of course, the bait-fish are abundant, the menhaden and herring. The only bait-fish that is not found is the caplin. The herring is very abundant on the American coast, and the alewives enormously abundant. Squid are very abundant of two or three species, and, of course, clams of various kinds. Then we have one shell-fish that we possess. It is never used here, although it is very abundant; but it is almost exclusively the bait for trawling on the coast of Great Britain. This shell-fish is known as the whelp, or winkle.

Q. Is it a kind of mussel?—A. No; it is a kind of univalve shell (submits specimen), and is almost exclusively used for the capture of cod in England on deep-water trawl-liners. It is not used here at all.

Q. Why is it not used here?—A. I don't know except that they have other bait that they get at more readily, and they have not learned how to use this.

Q. But it is very abundant?—A. Yes; quite as abundant as it is anywhere. This is a rather small specimen. The advantage of this kind of bait is that it can be kept alive for a long time merely by moistening it or keeping it in water, so there is no question about salting it or using ice or any other application.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Is there any particular locality for that?—A. It is extremely abundant all through the northern seas. I am a little surprised that I have not seen more of them here. It is a northern shell. I presume it is very abundant in Newfoundland, and to the north. At any rate it is in any desired abundance in the Bay of Fundy, but not south of Cape Cod.

Q. From all you have learned, have you any doubt that, supposing the fishermen of the United States were precluded from using any bait ex-

cept what could be got upon their own coast, they could obtain a sufficient supply there?—A. Well, unless the American fishery should be expanded to very enormous limits, far in excess of what it is now, I can't see that there would be any difficulty. I may refer to one bait at our command, which is an excellent bait—salt liver. In some parts that is considered an excellent bait. Of course each part of the world swears by its own particular bait. While the Cape Cod man swears by menhaden, the Newfoundlander by herring and caplin, and the Englishman by winkles, the Dutchman swears by salt liver.

Q. We could have that, of course.—A. Yes. Then the roes of cod are good for bait.

Q. What do you say about gurry? We had a good deal about that in the early part of this inquiry. Be so good as to tell what opinion you have or what conclusion you have come to about its use and abuse.—A. It hardly applies to cod any more than to any other fish cleaned at sea. The gurry is the offal, and that of course may be of salmon or cod or haddock or mackerel. The practice of throwing overboard gurry is in many respects reprehensible, because in the first place it is a very great waste of animal matter. The applicability of this offal to commercial purposes is such that whenever it can be had in sufficient quantities it should be utilized. It is so on the coast of Norway. An enormous number of pounds of fertilizer are made out of the gurry, and the heads are dried and used for food for dogs and cattle. I presume you refer, however, to the supposed influence of the gurry on the fishing grounds more particularly. Well, in the first place more of it can be used now. In the process of hard freezing applied to cod it is brought in more as a fresh fish. But a large proportion of what is thrown overboard can be utilized. It can all be utilized, and it would be very proper, I think, to impose some penalty upon the waste of the gurry by throwing it overboard, in favor of securing its preservation and utilization. But of course the question is as to what influence the gurry can exercise upon the sea fishery supposing it to be abundant and to be thrown overboard. I have no practical experience in regard to that. I know a great many persons testify that it is very objectionable. The reason why I should be inclined to attribute very little importance to the objection is the readiness with which all such offal is consumed in the sea by the scavengers appointed by nature to destroy it. In the northern seas, where codfish are most abundant and this gurry is in the greatest abundance, the waters abound with countless numbers of minute crustaceans whose business it is to destroy animal matter. The so called sea fleas are so active that if you take a fish the size of a codfish and put it in a bag of net-work and put it overboard where it will be exposed for a tide in water, of anywhere from five to ten or twenty fathoms, you will find, as a general rule, that next day you will have the bones picked clean and a perfect skeleton without a single particle of flesh. I have had thousands of skeletons (I may say literally so) of fishes and birds and small quadrupeds prepared for museum purposes by simply exposing them to the action of the sea fleas. I have put them in bags perforated with holes and left them at the edge of low tide for a tide or two, and the skeleton would be perfectly complete without a bit of meat left.

Q. Well, these sea scavengers, are they usually at the bottom?—A. Everywhere, at the bottom and the top. Then there are the dogfish, the small sharks, catfish, goosefish, sculpins, and the codfish themselves, a variety of lobsters, and other inhabitants of the sea, that are at work, always ready and eager to seize anything of this kind and consume it. Then when the bones are exposed there are the sea-urchins, that make

a specialty of devouring them. Now, I cannot say but that this material, under certain circumstances, may lodge in the crevices of the rocks and remain there and become an offense to the surrounding fish, but I rather suspect that the trouble about the gurry is that it attracts the predatory fish. Where it is thrown overboard it tolls them from a long distance. The dogfish, the shark, and other fish are attracted and come to the place where this offal has been thrown overboard, and after they have consumed all that they turn their attention to the cod and other fish that may be there and drive them off.

Q. So that even throwing overboard the gurry there is a danger of defeating your own purpose?—A. Yes; certainly. That is the hypothesis given as to the supposed evil effect of throwing overboard the offal in the European waters. It prevents the fishing there as long as this state of things lasts, but whether there is an actual injury otherwise I cannot say. The general presumption is against the idea that these substances can have a lodgment for any length of time to produce any offense. It might do it in fresh water. In the lakes you may have such a condition where those scavengers are not provided. But it hardly seems to me that it can be in the seas, in the northern seas especially.

Q. What is the geographical distribution of mackerel?—A. The mackerel is a fish that has not so northerly a distribution as the cod, and perhaps extends somewhat further south; otherwise it is found over, to a very considerable extent, the same range. It is found as far south as the Azores in European waters, and as far as Spitzbergen and Norway to the north. On our southern coast we find it very rarely, and very few individual specimens have been taken in the vicinity of Charleston. It has never been taken in the West Indies; never in Bermuda, I believe; but it is found as far north as the Straits of Belle Isle, and how much further north I cannot say. The two species (American and European) are believed to be identical, and although they are constantly within a comparatively small number of leagues of each other, yet they do occur all the way across.

Q. What is the season for mackerel?—A. In America the mackerel season is in spring, summer, and autumn. In winter they are not found on our coast, and we don't get them, but we have them on our shores as early as the middle of April and as late as November.

Q. Now, as to the variation of seasons. What do you say about that?—A. It is very rarely they appear in the same abundance in two successive years, or, at least, it is rarely that the sum total of the experience of the fishermen gives about the same aggregate. Sometimes they are so scarce that the actual catch of one year will be much below that of other years, but we cannot say there are any fewer fish actually in the water. It may be that they take a different line; they may keep in different waters; they may show themselves less to fishermen; and may have other modes of variation; but we only know by the practical results of fishing that the catch in some seasons is much greater than in others.

Q. What do you think is known or what do you think is the best conjecture as to their migrations?—A. There have been a great many hypotheses on the subject of the migration of mackerel. At one time mackerel, as was supposed to be the case with cod and sea-herring, was believed to have an extreme range, that a large school traversed the coast of America or Europe, and swept over a range of thousands of miles, making a circuit that occupied one year in its completion. But the evidence at the present time tends to show that the mackerel comes in on the American coast as a great army, broadside, and appears within a

reasonable length of time, or very nearly the same time, on all that extent of coast.

Q. Do you think it strikes the coast a little later to the north and a little earlier to the south?—A. The left wing of the army, as we might call it, strikes the American coast first, and the right wing strikes the Bay of St. Lawrence last; but it comes in with a broad sweep, not moving along the coast but coming in broadside. When the quickening influence of the spring sun is felt on this great body of fish somewhere outside, where I cannot say, they start, and the given temperature is reached sooner at Cape Hatteras than at Bay St. Lawrence; but I do not believe that the fish that enter the bay always skirt the American coast, nor do I believe that the American fish go into the bay. They come in a large number of schools, each school representing a family, that is, they spawn together, and they may have a short lateral movement, and may move a limited number of miles along the coast till they find a satisfactory spawning-ground; but, as a general rule, they aggregate in three large bodies; one of those bodies is about Block Island and Nantucket shoals, another is in the Gulf of Maine and Bay of Fundy, and another in Bay St. Lawrence. There are connections between those three bodies. You find them all along the coast; there are a certain number which spawn and are taken all along the coast; they are caught in weirs and pounds in spring and fall within one hundred yards of the shore; but the mass, as far as I can learn from the testimony presented before the Commission, are aggregated in those three great bodies.

Q. Is anything known about their winter quarters?—A. Nothing definite. We miss them for several months, from the end of November until March and April, and we say, we guess, we suggest they go into the Gulf Stream. That they go somewhere where they can find a temperature that suits them and there they remain, is clear; but it is a little remarkable that they never have been seen schooling in the Gulf Stream, that they never have shown themselves, that no fisherman, mackereler, or steamboat captain has ever reported, so far as my information goes, a school of mackerel in the winter season. If they were free swimmers, one would suppose they would show themselves under such circumstances. There is a belief very generally entertained among fishermen that they go into the mud and hibernate. That is an hypothesis I have nothing to say against. It seems a little remarkable that so free a swimmer as the mackerel should go into mud to spend its winter, but there is abundance of analogy for it. Plenty of fish bury themselves in mud in the winter time and go down two or three feet deep. There are fish that are so ready to bury themselves in mud you can dig them out of an almost dry patch as you could potatoes. The European tench, the Australian mud-fish, and dozens of species do that. There is nothing whatever in the economy of the mackerel or in the economy of fish generally against this idea, that it is an inhabitant of the mud. And the fishermen believe that the scale, which grows over the eyes, according to their account, in winter, is intended to curb their natural impetuosity and make them more willing to go into mud and stay there in winter and not be schooling out on the surface of the water. There are well-authenticated cases of fish being taken from the mud between the prongs of the jig when spearing for eels. That this has occurred off the Nova Scotia coast, in St. Margaret's Bay and Bras d'Or, Cape Breton, and parts of the Bay of St. Lawrence, I am assured is not at all doubtful.

Q. Do not fishermen mainly retain the old theory of the northern set of the whole body?—A. Very largely, but I think latterly they are changing their views.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. The fish were mackerel that were brought out of the mud?—A. When after eels they brought up mackerel out of the mud, in several instances, in January.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. What can you tell the Commission about the period of the spawning of mackerel?—A. Mackerel spawn almost immediately after they visit our shores. The earliest fish taken in the weirs and pounds in Vineyard Sound and Buzzard's Bay are full of ripe spawn, so that when the fish are taken out of the pounds and put into boats to bring them to shore there are sometimes quarts and pecks of the spawn in the bottom of the boats. It runs out with the utmost freedom, as it does with any full-spawning fish. That period ranges from the middle of May on our coast, and from June and July in Bay St. Lawrence. Mr. Whiteaves says they spawn in Bay Chaleurs in June. The season extends from the early part of May to the beginning of July.

Q. Where do the mackerel deposit the eggs?—A. The mackerel, like all sea fish, with the exception of the herring, the tom-cod, and sculpin, has a free floating egg. The egg is discharged in the water wherever the fish happen to be, inshore or offshore, and it floats just under the same condition that the egg of the cod does. It has a small globule of oil as a buoy, and it floats on the surface or anywhere from that to half way down, or, perhaps, almost to the bottom, depending on the gravity of the egg and the specific gravity of the water.

Q. Is the mackerel supposed to be able to control the time when it will spawn?—A. When the egg is ripe it has to be discharged, whatever happens. The egg cannot be retained after it is overripe.

Q. How do the eggs of each mackerel compare in numbers with those of the cod?—A. The average of the mackerel spawn is about 500,000. They are very small, as you can imagine, for mackerel is not a very large fish. The eggs, when spawned, are only about one-fiftieth of an inch in diameter, about half the size of that of the cod. They vary in size, some being smaller and others larger, but they only vary within moderate limits.

Q. You say they spawned all along the American coast?—A. I presume they spawn in some numbers along the entire coast from the shore of Virginia to the coast of Labrador; formerly they spawned on the coast of Newfoundland, when mackerel were caught there, where they were very abundant a great many years ago, and also off the Bay of Fundy, when mackerel were abundant there.

Q. What is the food of the young mackerel?—A. The young mackerel, like the young of most other fish, feed on *diatoms* and other marine plants of low origin. They feed on the eggs of crabs and marine animals, probably on the small eggs of fish themselves, and as they grow they eat anything small enough to be swallowed. They don't bite as bluefish do, but they take everything at one mouthful and swallow it whole.

Q. And what is the food of the adult fish?—A. The adult fish feed very largely upon young fish, sand lantz and young herring, and probably upon the young of their own kind. They are cannibals, as all fish are. They feed very largely upon what is called bay seed or cayenne; that is a minute kind of shrimp, which is so diminutive you require a microscope to separate it into its component parts. They feed also on large shrimps and on the young of large crabs. Its favorite food in summer is what fishermen have described as all-eyes, that is, young fish which, so far as I can judge, must be young mackerel, because I do not know

any other fish that could be so abundant of that size at that season of the year. It is called all-eyes, because its body is perfectly transparent, and when you see them swimming in the sunlight you can only see two eyes, as two small, dark specks. That occurs in almost incredible abundance, covering miles square, and furnishing food for an enormous yield of fish.

Q. With regard to its bearing upon the locations of mackerel. I will ask whether there is any particular place where the food of mackerel is to be found, or whether it is all along the coast where the mackerel come?—A. The shrimp belongs to a class of crustaceans which inhabit the high seas everywhere. We took them this year in great quantities in coming across from Salem to Halifax, at George's, La Have, and Brown's Banks, and in Halifax Harbor. We take them in Eastport, Salem, and Portland Harbors, and, as far as I am advised, by the specialists who are associated with me, there is no part of the ocean where these small animals are not to be found in ample abundance, sometimes enormously aggregated and at other times less common. They are found at all depths of water, from the surface to the bottom. We take them in our dredge and in our midway and surface nets. Those and the young of the large crabs are found under all circumstances and conditions.

Q. Then we take the common bait, pogies, or menhaden. They are mackerel bait, are they not?—A. Eaten by mackerel? I do not think they are, unless they eat them in the winter time. As to the spawning of pogies, we know nothing about it; we infer they spawn in winter off the southern coast.

Q. Are not menhaden used as bait for mackerel by fishermen?—A. The menhaden itself is taken all through the mackerel season at some part of the American coast.

Q. Is it abundant within your observation?—A. Yes; it is almost the most abundant of our fish; indeed, it is a question which is most abundant, sea-herring or menhaden.

Q. In regard to the catching of mackerel as affecting the supply and the probable diminution or increase of mackerel, what have you to tell the Commission about the mode of taking mackerel?—A. The mackerel is taken in a great variety of ways. At present it is taken by jig hook and by the net in some form. Formerly it was taken by means of hooks, as we do for bluefish, sailing backward and forward in a boat having a number of lines put from the vessel, and taking them when the vessel is under full speed. That method is still practiced on the coast of Europe, where mackerel are still taken in that way. Then it was found that by keeping the vessel comparatively motionless and throwing chum or chopped meat overboard mackerel could be brought up to the vessel, and that proved a much more efficient and thorough mode of capture. Nets were introduced, and many mackerel are now taken in gill-nets. Seines, which are hauled to the shore, have been introduced at some places on the coast of Nova Scotia, and a good many mackerel are taken in pounds and weirs, enormous quantities being taken in spring and fall on the New England coast in that way. The purse-seine is perhaps the most efficient and comprehensive method, and it is used by vessels.

Q. What is the proper depth of a purse-seine?—A. Twenty, twenty-five, or thirty fathoms deep.

Q. To be successful it has to have that depth?—A. It has to be deep, but it must be shallower than the water, or it will get entangled and torn.

Q. Do you know whether it is true that there must be that depth in

order that the mackerel shall not discover it so quickly and escape?—A. I could not say; that is a fisherman's theory, which I know nothing about.

Q. With regard to the preparation of mackerel, what have you to say?—A. Nothing, except that they are used in increasing numbers fresh. The principal consumption in Europe is in fresh fish. The people there do not salt fish, or scarcely at all. They are put up in Europe, and I believe, to some extent, in Canada in cans; I do not think that is done in the United States.

Q. Of course, you have obtained information as to the manner in which the fish can be used by consumers; you have nothing to do with the mercantile side of the question?—A. No.

Q. You have had it presented to you. Do you find that the demand for fresh fish of all kinds is increasing?—A. I know the tendency at the present day is to substitute fresh fish for salt, in view of the improved methods of preparation and preservation, and the improved means of communication, railroads and steamboats coming to the shores and carrying away the fish and distributing it over an extent of thousands of miles and more in the interior, it bringing a much better price as fresh fish, and yielding a much better profit to the seller.

Q. Is that trade rapidly increasing?—A. It is increasing with enormous rapidity. Every year witnesses a great extension of the methods and increased improvements in the mode of preparation and the size of the refrigerators and their number.

Q. In regard to herring, what have you to say?—A. Herring is a fish of wide range. Though I cannot say it goes further north than cod—perhaps it does not—it goes scarcely as far south on the American coast. I have not found any evidence of it being taken south of Block Island. It is very abundant off Block Island and Narragansett Bay in winter, but whether it is found further south I am unable to say; it is found as far north as Labrador, and much further.

Q. It is found from Block Island to the shores of Labrador in great abundance?—A. Yes.

Q. It is pretty fairly distributed all along?—A. Yes; in some localities they are found in greater abundance at some periods of the year; but there is no part of the American coast, from Labrador to Block Island, where they are not found during a certain number of months.

Q. What are the movements of this fish?—A. They present migrations not so extensive and demonstrative as that of mackerel, but more so than those of cod. They probably move from their ground from time to time in search of food, and generally have definite places for spawning, to which they resort at different seasons of the year at each particular coast. While the spawn is deposited, as a general rule, in certain localities, it is sometimes a matter of uncertainty. The destruction of herring has been less in America than in Europe, where it has been very marked. There are extensive regions where formerly the herring business was carried on, from which they have entirely disappeared, so much so that they import herring from Scotland and America.

Q. As to the egg of the herring?—A. The egg is larger than that of the cod, and is about one-twentieth of an inch in diameter.

Q. What is the number to each fish?—A. About 30,000.

Q. Do you think they have any particular spawning-ground?—A. They have definite localities that are preferred by them. They spawn round the Magdalen Islands in great abundance, and in the bays of Newfoundland. The most extensive spawning-ground on the southern coast is round the southern end of Grand Manan, which is one of the

most interesting and extensive spawning-grounds I know of. But they spawn also all along the reefs and rocky places of the New England coast as far as No Man's Land and Block Island.

Q. The yield of herring in New England, is it and can it be made very large?—A. I presume as many herring could be taken in New England, in seasons when they are able to be taken, as might be called for, if the price of them warranted it.

Q. Herring does not bring much in the market?—A. I believe not; they are taken in both spring and fall, but they are most abundant in the fall.

Q. I should like to put one or two questions to you bearing a good deal on this subject which the Commission has before it, respecting the kinds of fish which can be and are used in the United States. Leaving out cod, mackerel, and herring, will you tell the Commission what has been discovered regarding the kinds of fish that are used as a substitute for mackerel—salted fish, I mean?—A. There is a great variety in vast abundance of many kinds of fish all along the coast of the United States, from Saint John's River, Florida, and further south to the Bay of Fundy, and many of those could be utilized to very great advantage if there was a demand. They are taken in very large quantities and consumed as fresh fish, but they are not prepared in large quantities, with the exception of the Southern mullet.

Q. How far north is mullet found?—A. It straggles as far as Cape Cod; it is quite abundant at some seasons on the south side of New England, but not sufficiently so for marketable purposes, but off the coast of Virginia, and off the Carolinas, and all the way down to the extremity of Florida, the mullet is in quantities scarcely credible. They are taken and sold in great numbers; many thousands of barrels are put up, and if there was any speedy call for them they could be furnished. I presume I am safe in saying that one million barrels of mullet could be furnished annually from the south shore of Chesapeake Bay to the south end of Florida, if they were called for.

Q. How far has the mullet come into the market now?—A. The mullet does not come into the Northern market at all, but in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia it fills the markets at the present time, excluding other kinds of imported fish. In former years there was a great demand for herring and mackerel, but the mullet is supplying the markets because they are sold fresher and supplied at much lower price, and they are considered by the Southern people a much superior article of food.

Q. Is it preferred to mackerel as a salted fish?—A. The persons familiar with mackerel and with mullet from whom I have made inquiries—I never tasted salt mullet—give the preference to mullet. It is a fatter, sweeter, and better fish, and of rather larger size. They grade up to 90 to a barrel of 200 pounds, and go down to three-quarters of a pound, and as a salt fish the preference is given by all from whom I have inquired to the mullet.

Q. Do you think the failure of the mackerel market in the Southern and Southwestern States is largely attributable to the introduction of mullet?—A. I cannot say that, but I imagine it must have a very decided influence.

Q. Can the mullet be caught as easily as mackerel?—A. More easily. It is entirely a shore fish, and is taken with seines hauled up on the banks by men who have no capital, but who are able to command a row-boat with which to lay out their seines, and they sometimes catch 100 barrels a day per man, and sometimes as many as 500 barrels have been

taken at a single haul. The capital invested is only the boat, the seine, perhaps 100 or 200 yards long, the salt necessary for preserving the fish, and splitting boards and barrels.

Q. Can pounds be used?—A. They have not been used, and I doubt whether they could be used. Pounds are not available in the sandy regions of the South.

Q. They are taken by seining?—A. Yes, seines can be used. This work is entirely prosecuted by natives of the coast, and about two-thirds of the coast population are employed in the capture of these fish.

Q. Then the business has grown very much?—A. It has grown very rapidly.

Q. When was it first known to you as a fish for the market?—A. I never knew anything about it until 1872.

Q. Then it has been known during only five years?—A. I cannot say; it has been known to me that length of time.

Q. During that time the business has very much increased?—A. I am so informed; I cannot speak personally. All my information of it is from reports made to me in replies to circulars issued in 1872 and 1873. I have not issued a mullet circular since that time, when I issued a special circular asking information regarding the mullet.

Q. Then it is your opinion that the mullet has become, to some extent, and will become, an important source of food supply?—A. It is destined, I suppose, to be a very formidable rival and competitor of the mackerel. I know in 1872 a single county in North Carolina put up 70,000 barrels of mullet, a single county of five States covering the mullet region.

Q. Repeat that statement.—A. I say 70,000 barrels of mullet were packed in Carteret County, North Carolina, in 1872—one county in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, where mullet occurs in great abundance during two or three months of the year. It is during the spawning season of the mullet that it is taken in this quantity, and mullet roes form a special delicacy over which every Southerner exults. It is a separate business, the roes being smoked and salted and sold in large quantities.

Q. Perhaps a reason—to get into the region of political economy—why mullet-fishing was not prosecuted formerly, was that the Southern people were not fishing-people under the slave system?—A. They probably had not a proper method of taking them. They used more casting nets than seines.

Q. State to the Commission what mode of fishing and what kinds of fish are caught on the south of the New England coast, south of Cape Cod. Is it not a great region for fish?—A. The variety of fish taken on the shores south of Cape Cod is very great, and constitutes a very important element in the food resources of the country. Many of them are fish of very great value as food, some selling as high as one dollar per pound, every pound of that fish that can be brought into market bringing never less than 60 cents, and up to one dollar per pound. Other fish range from 20 cents, 35 cents, and 40 cents per pound. Others from 20 cents to 25 cents, very few bringing less than 8 cents and 10 cents a pound as fresh fish.

Q. What kinds of fish are they which bring the high price of a dollar a pound?—A. The pompano, which is the highest-priced fish.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. To what size does it grow?—A. Three pounds is the maximum. It is more generally one pound. The pompano brings one dollar per pound when it is freshly caught. Sometimes when it is brought to

New York and kept for a long time the price may come down. I know one occasion when it was sold at 10 cents a pound; but the fish was not marketable and should not have been sold. The next best fish is Spanish mackerel, a fish of remarkable excellence.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. In New York market at the proper season what does it bring?—A. I don't suppose it is ever sold under 25 cents per pound, and from that to 40 cents.

Q. Is that a mackerel?—A. It belongs to the mackerel family, and weighs about three pounds. There is the cero, a kind of Spanish mackerel, which goes up to 15 pounds. Those are all found from Cape Cod to Florida along the entire coast. There is the scup, which occurs from Florida to Cape Cod in great abundance.

Q. The scup is found in great abundance off the south coast of Massachusetts and Rhode Island?—A. Yes. There is also sea bass, which is one of the finest of the American fish, and is worth from 18 cents to 25 cents per pound.

Q. How many pounds do they average in weight?—A. From one to four pounds; three pounds is a large fish.

Q. They are found in abundance on the south coast of New England?—A. Yes; very abundant. There is also the kingfish and the bonito, which is a very important fish.

Q. There is a fish of that character extending from Block Island away down to Cape Hatteras?—A. It is one of the same family. It weighs up to five pounds. I have seen five thousand of those fish taken at a single time in a fishing-pound at Menemsha Bight. There is the bluefish, which is the *piece de resistance*. There is the squeteague; of that fish I have seen 25,000 pounds taken at a haul.

Q. The bluefish is a great fish in the market?—A. It is the principal fresh fish during the summer season on the coast of the United States from Cape Cod to North Carolina.

Q. Caught all along the shores?—A. All along the coast, being most abundant in the summer season toward Cape Cod, and in winter in North Carolina.

Q. There is a great drift through Vineyard Sound?—A. There is a numerous catch.

Q. Are not the people on the southern coast of Massachusetts, and on the coast of Rhode Island, now very much engaged in catching fresh fish?—A. Very largely, taking them in pounds and gill nets, and other modes of capture.

Q. Is this a part of the development of the fresh fish market?—A. Yes. Since bluefish has come back to the coast it has constituted an enormous element in the supply of fresh fish; it is not the controlling element, but it is the largest single element, although combining the striped bass, squeteague, mullet, and scup, they considerably outnumber the bluefish. (Photographs of the fish referred to were exhibited.)

Q. What about tautog?—A. It is an important fish, but is not in such immense abundance. While you talk of tautog being caught in thousands of pounds, you talk of others by hundreds of thousands or by millions.

Q. Pounds are very common on the American coast?—A. It constitutes the principal mode of summer fishing from round Cape Cod as far west as Long Island. Nearly all the fish taken on that coast are caught in the pounds. The small tunny is a fish which of late years has come into notice, and it is believed to have disturbed the mackerel and menhaden

this year. It was never recorded till I found it in 1871 in Martha's Vineyard, where it was in enormous numbers. It is a fish weighing about 25 pounds, and it is something like the horse mackerel, but they never grow more than 25 pounds. Not unfrequently 500 or 1,000 of them are taken in a single night in one of the pounds, but the people make no use of them and consider them valueless. They sell the fish weighing 25 pounds for 25 cents. It is a coarse fish and very dark meat, but still it is a food resource when other fish are not taken. These fish are found in the Mediterranean, where they are very much looked after and bring very good prices, they being specially salted and put up in oil. The American tunny is undistinguishable from the European, though efforts have been made to separate them.

Q. The pound-fishing which has come into general use in the southern part of New England, what is its effect on the supply of fish?—A. That is a question which I think will require a longer period of years than we have had for its definite determination. In 1871 I made my first inquiries into these pounds, and satisfied myself then that they must have a positive influence upon the abundance of fish, in view of the concurrent enormous destruction of bluefish. I considered the bluefish was the greatest agency in the destruction of our food fishes. Its relation to scup and squeteague has long been established—that when bluefish are abundant the other fish are rare, and the moment bluefish diminish the other fish become enormously common. The squeteague in 1862 was unknown as a fish east of the waters of New Jersey except in small numbers, and was not found in Martha's Vineyard or Buzzard's Bay. In 1872, ten years subsequently, so plentiful were they that I know myself of 5,000 fish being taken at a single haul, averaging five pounds each fish. The bluefish then began to diminish, and from that time were much less abundant than in 1850 or 1860. Those pounds and the bluefish together I considered produced the decrease in the abundance of scup, sea bass, and tautog that has been so much complained of. I urged very strongly, and I still maintain my view, on the legislatures of Massachusetts and Rhode Island the propriety of exercising some sort of restriction upon the indiscriminate use of this apparatus. I recommended that one day and two nights, that is, from Saturday night, or, if possible, from Friday night till Monday morning, should be established as a close time during which those fish should not be taken by any of those devices, thus giving the fish a chance to get into the spawning-grounds inshore, thereby securing their perpetuity.

I was quite satisfied in my own mind that unless something of this kind was done, very serious results would happen. Very much to my disgust, I must admit, the next year, even with all the abundance of those engines, the young scup came in in quantities so great as to exceed anything the oldest fisherman remembered, and thousands and tens of thousands of barrels of what was called dollar scup were sold. They were so thick in the pounds and so mixed with the fish that the owners could scarcely pick out the marketable fish, and consequently had to let large portions of the contents of the pounds go away. Since then scup has been very much more abundant than it was when I wrote my book and report.

Q. How do you account for this great increase?—A. I think those were scup, belonging to further south, which took a northern trip to northern waters and established themselves there. But I do urge in the most earnest manner the propriety of some restriction being placed on the pounds. I have not changed my views, although the evil has not arrived as I thought it would, and there are indications of some

other agency; whether it be the diminution of the bluefish which permits the scup to increase or not I cannot say.

Q. Is it true the bluefish is diminishing?—A. It is not by any means so abundant as it was, very much to the regret of all people who catch them, either for market or for sport.

Q. Can you remember the time when there was no bluefish on the American coast?—A. I cannot. I know we have the record of the fact, and I know many persons who can remember it. Bluefish was absent from the American coast for sixty years, during which time there was not a single bluefish to be found on the coast.

Q. You think the pounds should be dealt with as a matter for regulation and not for banishment?—A. I don't think the market would be amply supplied without them, and I don't think it would be expedient to prohibit them. I think a certain amount of regulation, such as I have recommended, would be a great deal better for the fish and the fishermen. The disadvantage of the pounds is that they glut the market at times, so that there is no sale for the fish and fish are wasted, and by the adoption of a close time not only will it secure proper spawning of the fish, but also equalize consumption.

No. 69.

WILLIAM J. MASS, of Chester, Nova Scotia, master mariner and fisherman, called on behalf of the Government of the United States.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You are 27 years of age, I believe?—Answer. Yes.

Q. And you were born at Chester, Nova Scotia?—A. Yes.

Q. Your wife is residing at Dartmouth?—A. Yes.

Q. You command the schooner Orinoco, sailing out of Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. And you are a naturalized citizen of the United States?—A. Yes.

Q. To whom does the schooner belong?—A. John Pew.

Q. Where have you been fishing this summer?—A. I have been fishing in Bay St. Lawrence the latter part of the summer.

Q. About what time did you go into the bay?—A. About 20th August, I believe.

Q. When did you leave there?—A. Last Monday.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel did you take in that time?—A. About 100 barrels.

Q. Sea barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did you catch them?—A. At different places; some round Magdalen Islands, Prince Edward Island, and Point Miscou—all round—scattered.

Q. When you went fishing to the bend of the island, how far from the shore did you get your fish?—A. As near as I could tell we were outside of the limits; that is to the best of my knowledge, but we did not measure. I should think we were outside of the three miles.

Q. You have tried in and out?—A. Yes.

Q. You say you have got about 100 sea barrels; how have the schooners done that you have heard of?—A. The others have done very little. Some vessels which were in at the first part of the season got some mackerel, but I don't believe they will average 100 barrels all through, early and late.

Q. If you can remember any particular schooners, and the quantities they caught, name them.—A. The William S. Baker had about 10 bar-

rels. I believe she had been to the bay five weeks, but I could not tell exactly.

Q. Where is she from?—A. She belongs to Gloucester; her captain is Captain Pierce.

Q. Any others?—A. Capt. John Collins, in Helen M. Crosby, had 10 barrels. He had been there quite a month; I heard six weeks. He went home to Gloucester. Capt. George Bass, in the Colonel Cook, of Gloucester, had about 80 barrels, and he had been in the bay eleven weeks, I think they told me.

Q. Any others?—A. The Rattler, belonging to Captain Leighton, had 150 barrels, they told me. She had been in the bay over two and a half months.

Q. Have you heard of any larger catch than that of the Rattler?—A. The John H. Kennedy, of Portland, had 90 barrels.

Q. Is that the largest catch you heard of?—A. No; Captain Knowles in Harvest Home had 210 barrels. That is the largest catch I know of. Then there are other vessels with 12 or 15 barrels. The Serena Ann, of Portland, had 15 barrels; the Lizzie Ann, of Portland, had 14 barrels.

Q. I want to know whether the mackerel-fishing of vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence has been a success or a failure this season, so far as you know and from information given to you?—A. Well, so far as my knowledge and information extend, it has been a failure this year—the last two years.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. What is the name of your vessel?—A. The Orinoco.

Q. When did you come into the bay?—A. We went into the bay, I believe, on the 20th or 22d August.

Q. Was there much fishing around Magdalen Islands this year?—A. There has not been a great deal; there has been some mackerel there.

Q. Has the fishing there not been very bad?—A. Yes, very bad.

Q. Nothing at all done there?—A. I cannot say nothing at all. One or two vessels, out of 100 sail, have got a small share there; the rest have got nothing, you may say.

Q. At what would you put the whole fleet in the bay?—A. I could not tell exactly.

Q. Would you say 250 sail altogether?—A. No; there were not that many this year.

Q. Could you swear there were not?—A. I could not swear there were not.

Q. Had you any means of forming a correct opinion?—A. I don't think there were more than 100 sail.

Q. Would you call it 200 sail?—A. It might be 200.

Q. You cannot swear that it is more or less?—A. I could not swear. We saw lots of vessels, but I did not keep the run of them.

Q. When you went into the bay, where did you first go?—A. We tried from one place to another.

Q. Where did you go first?—A. To Port Hood and Cape George. We tried there close inshore, and we tried out. Inshore we did not raise anything worth speaking of; we also tried off shore and got a few mackerel. We tried two other days, and as there did not appear to be much prospect of a catch, we went from there to Point Miscou.

Q. Did you try at Magdalen Islands?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you get any there?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. About 25 barrels. We stopped there about twelve days.

Q. Which was your main fishing-ground—Prince Edward Island?—
A. Yes.

Q. Is that the main fishing-ground of the fleet this summer?—A. I could not tell you that. There are lots of vessels in during the whole year; they had tried in other places, but most mackerel had been got at Magdalen Islands.

Q. Name one vessel that has got mackerel at Magdalen Islands?—A. The Rambler, Captain R. Johnson, 200 barrels; he is high-liner.

Q. Where did you see him?—A. At Georgetown, two weeks ago.

Q. What was he doing there?—A. He was there for a harbor.

Q. Not there fishing?—A. He had come across from Magdalen Islands, having run short of outfit, and had to go to Canso to fit out.

Q. How far is it from Georgetown to Magdalen Islands—over 100 miles?—A. About 140.

Q. Could he not be running to Georgetown to fit, after fishing at Magdalen Islands?—A. I can tell you how he came to be there. He came from the Magdalen Islands, and was going to Canso to refit, and on the way, there came on a breeze of wind, and he went to Georgetown; he will go back to the Magdalens.

Q. He got 200 barrels?—A. Yes; about 200 barrels.

Q. You think he got them about the Magdalens?—A. Yes; and Bird Rocks.

Q. When you were fishing, how many vessels were about Prince Edward Island? Tell me where you were fishing?—A. We tried up and down. We did not get a great many at the island. We got some mackerel at Port Hood—a few mackerel.

Q. Did you not tell me that Prince Edward Island was your main fishing-ground?—A. We were there most of the time, but we did not get the most mackerel there.

Q. Where did you get most of your mackerel, if not at Prince Edward Island, Magdalen Islands, or Port Hood?—A. We did not get a great many anywhere. We got most of our mackerel off Port Hood.

Q. The first time you tried, you got none?—A. We went back afterwards.

Q. When fishing off Prince Edward Island, did you fish much off East Point?—A. We fished some there.

Q. You do not profess to say that you did not catch fish within the limits there?—A. I profess to say we did not catch many. I don't say we did not catch any, but that the number was very small.

Q. Are you prepared to say how many; or did you pay any attention to it?—A. No; it is pretty hard to tell exactly.

Q. You did not pay any attention to it?—A. No. I think we did not catch any worth speaking of.

Q. Did you pay any particular attention to the three-mile limit?—A. A man who has business on hand knows where he has done best, and calculates on going there again. If he does well at one place he always bears it in mind to go there again.

Q. Did you pay any particular attention to how far you were from land when you caught your fish?—A. I took notice always when we tried for mackerel, we tried for mackerel inshore and then out.

Q. You went wherever you thought you could find mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. This year you went in and out irrespective of the limit?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you see boats fishing much there?—A. We saw some boats out in the bend of the island; a good many mackerel boats were there. We did not try much there. We went more round the Chapels.

Q. That is where you fished chiefly?—A. We were round there at different times, but we did not get many of our mackerel there. Some vessels got mackerel there.

Q. You got mackerel off Port Hood?—A. Yes; a good part of them.

Q. You do not wish the Commission to understand that the low catches of vessels you have named are average catches?—A. I gave you the highest and the lowest catch.

Q. Those are the lowest catches made in the fleet?—A. They could not well have any and have less.

Q. You do not wish the Commission to understand that they were anything like the average catch?—A. I said that, so far as my knowledge goes, they would not average over 100 barrels for the whole season.

Q. Have you asked the captains of many vessels what their catches have been?—A. Yes; we always found that out.

Q. What is your own catch?—A. It is about 100 barrels.

Q. Cannot you tell me exactly?—A. I could not tell you exactly; it is allowed to be about 100 barrels.

Q. Do you know what the catch of the Greyhound was? She is reported to me as having caught 230 barrels. Is that correct?—A. What I heard was that she had 170.

Q. Did you hear that from the captain himself?—A. I never spoke with him.

Q. When did you hear that?—A. Two weeks ago.

Q. She might have caught up to that number after that?—A. No.

Q. Did you hear it from the captain himself?—A. I did not speak with the captain himself, but with the other men.

Q. Your information, then, is third-hand?—A. I did not get it from him, but I got it pretty straight.

Q. Do you know what the Moses Adams got?—A. I could not tell exactly. The captain was on board of my vessel, but I never inquired.

Q. He is reported to have got 270 barrels?—A. I guess you will have to take a good many off that.

Q. What did they tell you the Moses Adams had got?—A. One hundred and seventy barrels.

Q. When was that?—A. Just before he went home. He went home two or three days after that, so I was told. I know he did not catch any. I know that from a vessel which spoke with him as he was going home, and he was bearing up for the Strait of Causo.

Q. Do you know when he got to Causo?—A. I know pretty nearly.

Q. How do you know, if you were not there? Might he not have got some at Margaree?—A. The vessel saw him going by Port Hood; that is away this side of Margaree.

Q. Do you know what the E. H. Horton got?—A. I don't know any more than what I heard.

Q. What did you hear?—A. One hundred and sixty barrels.

Q. How was it you did not give the names of those vessels as being among those in the bay?—A. I could not think of all.

Q. Do you know how many the John Gerard, of Newburyport, caught?—A. I did not talk with her captain, but they said she had 150 barrels. The Old Chad, of Newburyport, with nineteen hands—I know this positively—got 120 barrels.

Q. Do you know what the J. J. Clarke got?—A. I don't know exactly. You have got all the best there; there is not a poor one among them.

Q. Do you know what the Cayenne got?—A. Is she an American vessel?

Q. I presume so.—A. I never saw her; I don't know a vessel of that name.

Q. Do you know what the Frederick Gering, jr., got? She is reported with 330 barrels.—A. Then they have got a big spurt.

Q. You never heard of her?—A. Yes, I did; I heard she had 150 barrels.

Q. When did you hear that?—A. I should judge about two weeks ago.

Q. Were all of those vessels in the bay two weeks ago?—A. I did not see the vessels, but I have talked with the men.

Q. How many vessels were there in the bay when you left?—A. There were about 35 sail of vessels with us when we went out of Causo.

Q. How many did you leave when you came away?—A. I could not tell.

Q. Thirty-five or forty vessels?—A. I should estimate over that, but that number is of those we saw there.

Q. Do you know what the David F. Low got?—A. I could not tell positively; I have heard reports.

Q. How many seasons have you been in the bay?—A. About seventeen seasons.

Q. As master?—A. No.

Q. As hand?—A. As hand, except this last year, when I was in the bay as master.

Q. You must have been fishing in the bay ever since you went into the bay at all?—A. All but two seasons.

Q. Where did you fish then?—A. On the American shore; on George's, La Have, and Grand Banks, two years; I was master.

Q. What years were they?—A. Last year and the year before.

Q. During the years you fished in the bay, you fished both inside and outside the limits?—A. We tried all over.

Q. Inside and outside?—A. To the best of my knowledge we caught most of the mackerel off shore.

Q. You think you did?—A. I am positive of it; all the largest spurts. I have caught as high as 130 barrels with hooks off shore. We caught them about nine miles off Entry Island, to the southeast; we got 130 barrels from nine o'clock in the morning till half past four o'clock in the afternoon.

Q. Have you fished much about Margaree?—A. Yes; a great deal round Margaree.

Q. I believe in the fall nearly all the vessels fish there?—A. They used to do so years ago; these last years there does not seem to have been anything round there.

Q. What years do you speak of?—A. This year and last year. My brother was down in the bay last year, and he told me about it then.

Q. This year you did not fish about Margaree much?—A. We tried there, but did not take more than half a barrel.

Q. That is known as one of the best fishing-grounds in the fall?—A. It used to be counted the best.

Q. Up to the last two years?—A. It was when I was in the bay; that is, in the fall.

Q. Most of the fleet went to fish there in the fall?—A. There was a large part which did not fish there. I used to be in Nova Scotia vessels, and during the largest part of that time we saw very few American vessels.

Q. At the time when you catch them inshore it always happens you are in provincial vessels?—A. It is not that at all. Most of the vessels would not content themselves staying in; they would go away before

the spurts would come at Margaree and Cheticamp, and we used to stop in. I was with my father, who owned a vessel called the Frank, which sailed for Halifax. We filled up two or three falls around Margaree. Very few American vessels were there.

Q. What time was that?—A. We caught 200 barrels, about 5th November; I don't judge we were inside the three miles then.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. How old were you when you first went into the bay?—A. Eight years.

Q. You were with your father?—A. Yes; my first trip was in the Frank.

Q. When you fish round Margaree late in the autumn, how long do you stay—one week or two?—A. Sometimes one week, sometimes two. Sometimes we have to lay there ten or twelve days and cannot get out. Then perhaps one or two fine days will come, and we will get some mackerel.

FRIDAY, *October 19, 1877.*

The Conference met.

The examination of Prof. SPENCER F. BAIRD, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, resumed.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. There were some matters with regard to herring, in regard to which I did not ask you fully yesterday. Will you state to the Commission about the spawning-grounds of herring especially? I do not care for anything outside of the American coast.—Answer. The herring spawn along the whole coast of the United States, from the Bay of Fundy to No Man's Land, which is a small island between Block Island and Martha's Vineyard. I have specimens of spawn from almost all the localities between those two points, and I am informed they also spawn around Block Island, but I have never seen any evidence myself.

Q. But you know as to the fact?—A. I know it is so from testimony and reports.

Q. Do the eggs of the herring lodge on the bottom?—A. The herring is almost the one—is, I think, the only one—of our important sea fish, the eggs of which are adherent; that is to say, when discharged, it falls to the bottom and adheres to the sea-weed, gravel, and rock. Generally it is scattered, but not unfrequently a great part of the spawn of the fish will be aggregated into a mass of the size of a walnut or hickory nut, but more generally they are scattered and attached singly or by twos and threes to sea-weed. I have here specimens of the eggs in the adherent form, some which I dragged up at the southern end of Grand Manan.

Q. Are the spawning-grounds extended along the coast all the way?—A. Yes; all the way.

Q. And are very numerous?—A. There is no reason to suppose there is any part of the coast at which they are wanting. They are specially abundant about Cutler, in Maine, and about some of the islands off Penobscot Bay, about Cape Elizabeth, Portsmouth, off Newburyport, and particularly along the edge of the coast from north and east of the entrance of Massachusetts Bay. They also spawn inside of Cape Cod Bay, and all along the south coast of this region to No Man's Land, as I have already mentioned. The spawning-season is later and later as you go south. On the coast of the United States the herring spawns on the fall of the temperature, just as the salmon, cod, and trout do—

unlike the shad and mackerel, which spawn at a rising temperature. The moment the water along our coast gets to a certain degree of temperature, then the herring is incited to the act of spawning. I might say in completion of this point that herring spawns in the spring in Bay St. Lawrence and Newfoundland. It spawns in early summer at Grand Manan in July, August, and September. It spawns at the end of September in Eastern Maine, and it spawns in October off Boston, and does not spawn till November and sometimes December at No Man's Land.

Q. Making a difference of many months?—A. Yes, a difference of from six to eight months.

Q. Describe the modes by which herring are caught on the coast of the United States.—A. They are caught principally by weirs, pounds, and gill-nets on our coast. They are caught with seines largely in Bay St. Lawrence and Newfoundland, but the large, full-grown, spawning herring are usually taken in gill-nets on or near the spawning-ground. A very large number are taken on the whole coast of Maine and in the Bay of Fundy in weirs, but the great body of these are smaller herring, and are not used as fresh fish.

Q. How is it with weir fishing?—A. The weir fishing is generally conducted in Maine, and to some extent inside of Cape Cod to the north. South of Cape Cod they are more generally taken in pounds, but also in gill-nets.

Q. How are they taken along the Massachusetts coast?—A. They are taken, generally, in gill-nets in the fall. The regular pounds are usually not down as late as the herring season, but in spring large numbers are taken in the pounds.

Q. How do you feel sure that this statement about spawning on the coast is correct?—A. By actual capture of the fish in the spawning season, and by dredging up their eggs from the bottom with apparatus we use for such purposes.

Q. Is herring a very common fish on the United States coast?—A. It is exceedingly abundant. It is not utilized at all to the extent of the capacity. The herring is not a very favorite fish, it is a cheap fish, and as there are so many better fish on the coast it is not very marketable for food. It is sold in great quantities but at very low prices, and is used only by the poorer classes of the community. Of course it is used for bait, but as fresh fish it is very seldom seen on the tables of the well-to-do people.

Q. Is it dried and pickled?—A. They are pickled to some extent. Some are smoked, a great many are worked up in the form of bloaters, and in this form it is very much sought after.

Q. You have been at the places where the business is carried on?—A. I have seen 20 or 30 large boats, of a capacity of perhaps 500 barrels or more, filled with herring, lying at the wharf at Boston at one time. They are boats probably from 4 to 10 tons.

Q. Market boats?—A. They are open boats, known as herring boats, and the coast now is lined with the boats with gill-nets catching herring for the fall trade.

Q. Have you anything to say about the predaceous fish, such as the shark and dogfish? Do you think they do a great deal of harm to the food-fish?—A. They constitute a very important factor in the question of the abundance of fish on our coast. They destroy enormous weights and quantities of all the useful fish, and in proportion as they increase in numbers the food-fish diminish and *vice versa*. They perform the same function as bluefish; they are constantly in the pursuit of other fish and destroying them.

Q. There is no probability of changing that relation which fish seem to bear to one another?—A. They all have the relation of attack, defense, pursuit, and flight.

Q. But, notwithstanding that, I suppose they belong to what you call the balance of nature?—A. The balances of nature are such that it is extremely difficult to say what will be the effect on the fisheries of destroying or multiplying a particular stock of fish. The sharks, for instance, are destroying great quantities of food-fish. A new enterprise has just been started, and will be opened in the course of a few weeks, to utilize the sharks, porpoises, dogfish, and tunnies. An establishment expects to work up twelve million pounds annually of those fish, for which heretofore there has not been a market. They are caught in great quantities on the shores, but not utilized, and now there is to be a market for them, and the parties offer the same price for them as they do for menhaden.

Q. Where is the company started?—A. At Wood's Holl, Mass. The company expects to keep two or three steamers constantly traversing the coast from Block Island to Penobscot Bay, or Bay of Fundy, and the company advertises that it will take all dogfish, sharks, porpoises, black-fish, and other offal that may be offered to it, up to the amount, I think, of 20 or 25 tons a day. By a new process, the oil will be extracted without heat, leaving the meat entirely free of grease, and, when it is dried, it will be ground up to make what they call fish flour, or meal, which can be used for fertilizing purposes or food, as you please. The same substance is made from cod in Norway and is an article of food. It makes a very nice form of food, and is used as fish-cakes and other preparations.

Q. It can be made up like flour?—A. Yes; and can be mixed up without any difficulty. The effect of the abstraction of twelve million pounds of those predaceous fish will undoubtedly be very great. Whether, as those fish eat bluefish, it may not allow bluefish to multiply, and in that way restore the balance again, it is impossible to say; but if it was to take bluefish also, we would relax very largely the pressure on eatable fish, and they would necessarily increase.

Q. Is the philosophy of that substantially that when one kind of predaceous fish becomes very numerous, and is destroying useful fish, it either disappears in time, or by what we regard as the regular course of nature, and the work of man, that fish diminishes, or is exterminated, and others take its place?—A. After they have eaten up everything, they will start out and go somewhere else. Whenever they have made their favorite food scarce, they go somewhere else. So it is a very serious question as to what had better be done, no matter what promise there may be, in regard to altering the relations willfully and purposely between the different forms of the animals of the sea. If you take them for food, you allow the consequences to come as they may, but any question of protecting one kind of fish, or destroying or exterminating others, should always be considered with a great deal of care, and from a great many points of view that do not strike the mind or attention at first thought.

Q. To undertake to regulate the relations of fish beyond shoal water where you can fish with nets, seines, and pounds, would be impracticable?—A. It would be very difficult, indeed, and the effect would probably be very trifling.

Q. You spoke yesterday of the fish of the Southern States, the fisheries of which in the new order of things are being rather more developed by greater diversity of industry, and so forth; can you mention

any other fish that are coming into use?—A. There are a great many species, probably not less than fifty, all having a definite value as an article of food, and all caught and consumed on the coast, or sent in limited quantities either to the Northern markets or to Cuba, that could be taken into consideration, but perhaps the capture of the fish that takes the rank of fisheries relates more particularly to the mullet, menhaden, striped bass, and bluefish. There is a very extensive fishery of bluefish on the southern coast. The bluefish, after leaving the northern waters, spends a certain time on the coast of Virginia and North Carolina, and by the time it gets back there it has attained enormous dimensions, the fishes being generally from 12 to 15 pounds, at which size they are found only casually and occasionally on the northern coast. It is not at all an uncommon thing for one fishery of a single locality to take 3,000 bluefish, averaging 12 pounds each fish.

Q. What do you mean by one fishery?—A. A single station at one particular point, the fishing being controlled by one man or firm. An enormous number of bluefish are sent late in fall and in early winter to the Northern markets.

Q. So that when bluefish leave the New England coast, they do not disappear altogether from the American coast?—A. Not at all. It disappears some time in February, and where it goes, we cannot tell.

Q. It disappears from the southern coast?—A. Yes. A small school of bluefish is found all the year south to Florida, but the large school of blue fish usually disappears in February, and, indeed, I may say, we never see it again. The fish, as they make their appearance in spring, are smaller fish.

Q. Do they first appear on the south coast of New England?—A. On first appearing on the coast of Carolina and Virginia, they come in something like the mackerel, only they have a rather more coastwise travel, because they do not spawn on the northern coast. Probably the big bluefish go out somewhere to spawn, but what becomes of them, whether they spawn themselves out to a condition of nonentity, I cannot say. We do not see them; they may go to Africa, or the Mauritius, for bluefish are found all the world over; but whether they go to any other portion of the world from the United States, I cannot say.

Q. What have you to tell the Commission about menhaden at the South?—A. The menhaden is a very important fish on the south coast as an article of food. It is caught, salted, and pickled, and to some extent used in the country. There is quite a large export of menhaden to the West Indies from the Southern States.

Q. Is it used fresh?—A. It is salted and pickled; it is also eaten fresh very largely, and considered a very capital article of food.

Q. You have eaten it yourself?—A. Yes; it is a sweet fish, quite as good as herring, but rather more bony; the bones are, however, more adherent to the skeleton. You can prepare menhaden by maceration, so that the greater part of the bones will stick to the vertebral column, instead of being loose and lying about the muscular parts, as in herrings.

Q. Is it also salted in the South?—A. Yes.

Q. Is there now a large business in menhaden, or is there likely to be?—A. It is a business capable of almost any extension for which there is a demand. There is no limit apparently, speaking in reasonable terms, to the number that can be taken, any more than there is in the North. There is nothing like the same quantity taken in the Southern as in the Northern waters. It is taken somewhat for the manufacture of oil, but the business is not fully developed.

Q. What other fish did you mention in the South?—A. The mullet,

menhaden, bluefish, and striped bass to some extent, but striped bass is more an estuary fish coming into brackish waters, and can scarcely, with propriety, be mentioned in this connection.

Q. What have you to say about the drum?—A. It is a fish that can be taken in almost any desired quantity. It is obtained weighing up to 100 to 120 pounds, but it generally weighs from 10 to 20 pounds. There is the channel bass, which can be also taken in any desired quantities. It is entirely a sea fish, and is caught in the rapid channel-ways between the shores and islands on the coast.

Q. Especially, perhaps, in South Carolina?—A. Only stragglers come on the eastern coast, but it is found in enormous abundance from North Carolina down to the southern extremity of Florida, and in the Gulf of Mexico.

Q. Can the fish be salted for the market?—A. I don't think it has ever been tried; it is worth almost too much as fresh fish.

Q. Is the fish called red snapper there?—A. Yes; it is very abundant on the coast of Florida. It is a large fish, of a blood-red color, as red as goldfish, and weighs from five to twenty pounds. It is caught in great numbers in the winter season, and taken alive to Cuba. The Connecticut fishermen, after they have finished their halibut and cod summer and autumn fishing, go down to Florida, and spend two or three months catching red snappers and other fish and taking them to Cuba, selling them as fresh fish, alive. It is taken in the wells of vessels, and is sold at very high prices in Havana. Sometimes, on the return trip, they take a load to New York, and sell them in that market alive.

Q. In regard to pounds, they must be constructed in muddy ground?—A. In almost any ground, except sand, because the sand shifts.

Q. To construct a pound, you drive in piles or posts, and then make a straight line of net-work right up?—A. Yes. (Diagram of a pound exhibited.) The stakes are driven right down with a pile-driver, and from stake to stake is extended a wall of netting, which extends down to the bottom and makes a barrier for the fish. They are held down by a chain. There is also the heart, bowl and pocket. The fish coming along the coast strike the wall of netting, and very naturally, in endeavoring to skirt it, they turn seaward and go along till they get into this receptacle either way. A fish never turns a corner, and when it gets within the netting it swims round and round, but never goes back again. Then gradually it is led into the inner inclosure, and the same process goes on; the fish swim round and round, but never find their way out back through the opening. You may leave the pound for a week, and you will have there all the fish that have come in, except the striped bass, which is the only fish you cannot cheat in a pound; and you very rarely take them in that way. Then when they come to haul the pounds, they throw a gate of netting across the opening, and in the bowl the netting extends over the bottom and comes up the side. They gather up the end and haul it over the boat, and gradually concentrate the fish in a corner, and turn them or throw them over into the permanent pocket, where the fish are kept until ready for market. Fish are kept there sometimes two or three weeks or more for a demand in the market; if there is a glut in the market, they may keep perhaps 1,000, 2,000 or 3,000 fish in one of these inclosures.

Q. How is the pocket formed?—A. It is a net-work, fastened down to the bottom by a chain, so that it will touch the bottom and not permit fish to go under it. (Diagram of trap exhibited.) The trap is only used in the waters of Rhode Island, and is used for scup, tautog, and sea-bass. There are no stakes used to the trap. It is a rectangular space of net-

ting, held at the corners by anchors. The fish go along the leaders and pass into the receptacle. The trap requires constant watching, or the fish could go in and out. The moment a school of fish enter, the netting at the end is raised. They pursue the same mode of emptying, and turn the fish into the pocket, as with pounds.

Q. The difference is that in the case of pound, it is not necessary that boats should be employed to visit them frequently?—A. In stormy weather you sometimes cannot get to a pound for a week. In the case of traps they are visited three or four or half a dozen times a day.

Q. When the boats off shore see a school of fish enter the trap, they follow and take it whether large or small. [Diagram of weir exhibited.] This weir consists of a small circle of brush or boards, with two wings and a spring. The fish come into the weir at high tide, and as the water falls they are left in a cavity inside the weir, and are taken out in dip-nets. There are a dozen or twenty different forms of constructing weirs.

Q. What is the estimated cost of a pound?—A. \$1,000 will pay for the construction of a very good pound, including the entire equipment. A pound is managed by from two to four men, while a trap requires two boats and about seven men.

Q. The trap is more expensive?—A. About the same cost as the pound, because, although it has no stakes, yet it requires to be of very considerable size and needs anchors. I should presume that the first cost of the two would not be very different.

Q. And what is the cost of a weir?—A. It is a simple thing. The cost merely represents the lumber and labor.

Q. That is a permanent erection?—A. Yes; the others are all taken up; the traps are only kept down six weeks in the year; the pounds are down for from two months to five, and at the end of the season they use an apparatus to pull the stakes out of the water, and then pack them on shore for next season.

Q. What are the kinds of fish taken in the great lakes?—A. There is a great variety of fish taken there, but the most important fish, as a matter of business, are the whitefish, lake herring, lake trout, wall-eyed pike, maskalonge, sturgeon, and a variety of others. The most important, however, are whitefish, herring, and trout.

Q. What are the methods of taking them?—A. They are taken very largely by pounds, which are constructed on a very large scale, and much more elaborate and expensive than on the coast. They are taken by gill nets very largely, and by seines under certain circumstances. At a certain time of the year, whitefish can be taken in great quantities in seines, and kept in pounds until ready for market.

Q. Are those built and constructed to a great extent along both the Canadian and American shores?—A. I presume they are used in Canada, though I cannot say. I know they are on our own coasts. There is quite a number of these pounds worked by Canadians on the American coast.

Q. Have you any statistics respecting the lake fishery for the years 1876 and 1877?—A. I have only partial statistic for 1877. I published the statistics in detail in my report for 1872, and I am now having statistics for 1877 collected, and will have them I suppose by the end of the season.

Q. 1872 represents but faintly the present state of things. Can you tell us how it was in 1872?—A. In 1872 the American production of fish in the great lakes was 32,250,000 pounds. That quantity of fish was taken, but how much more I cannot say. Those were marketed at Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, and many other stations.

Q. Does that include the Canadian catch?—A. I presume there is no Canadian catch in that amount. Those are the figures as they were obtained by my agents, from the fishermen and dealers.

Q. You obtained them from the dealers in the large cities?—A. Yes, and the fishermen at the grounds. This year I have had every station on the American side of the lakes visited and canvassed.

Q. You have steady communication with and reports from the dealers?—A. I have reports only when I send specially after them, as I did in 1872 and am doing this year.

Q. How far have you got in your inquiry this year?—A. I have only a partial return from Chicago.

Q. What does that show?—A. The total marketing of salted fish in Chicago up to the middle of October amounted to 100,000 half-barrels, with about 20,000 half-barrels expected for the rest of the season, or equal to 60,000 barrels of those fish for Chicago alone for the present year. The corresponding supply of barrels of fish in 1872 was 12,600 in Chicago, so that the Chicago trade has increased from 12,600 in 1872 to 60,000 in 1877, or almost fivefold—4 8-10. The total catch of fish in the lakes in 1872 was 32,250,000 pounds. If the total catch has increased in the same ratio as that market has done at Chicago, it will give 156,000,000 pounds of fish taken on the American side of the lakes for the present year.

Q. That, of course, cannot be a matter of certainty?—A. No.

Q. What other large central markets for lake fish are there besides Chicago?—A. Chicago and Buffalo are the most important. Cleveland takes a large quantity, but Chicago and Buffalo control the market. Detroit takes the fish to some extent, but it is not such a convenient shipping point.

Q. What proportion does that bear to the fish of Canada?—A. I cannot say. I may say, in regard to this point, that on the same ratio the total product of the salt fish from the lakes in the American market would be 48,546,000 pounds. Of course, those figures are comparisons, and the estimates may be fallacious. Chicago may have a larger share of the lake trade in proportion, or may have a smaller share; other places may have crowded on it, or it may have gained on them.

Q. You expect to have full returns?—A. I shall have them probably in the course of one month. I have not heard from my agent who is visiting all the Canadian stations and fishing points on the American coasts.

Q. You expect to ascertain the whole catch of the lakes for 1877?—A. Yes, with great precision. I have here an item which may perhaps be interesting in regard to the price of those fish. The ruling prices of fish on the 15th October, in Chicago, were \$7.50 per barrel for white-fish, \$5.50 for salmon trout, and \$3.75 for lake herring. Those are the prices paid to the captors for the fish by the merchants; that is, before they are handled and any profit put upon them.

Q. In regard to the increase in the consumption of fish, are any as beneficial means being adopted in Canada to maintain the supply?—A. Both Canada and the States bordering on the great lakes have striven very efficiently to prevent what would otherwise have been a great danger to the supply of an enormous amount of fish. They are hatching white-fish by artificial means to the extent of a great many millions annually. The two countries are not co-operating but concurring in this business, and probably this year they may introduce as many as 20, 30, or more millions of young fish into the waters, and that must necessarily have a very important influence on the maintenance of the fisheries.

They have not done anything yet in regard to lake herring, but whitefish, which is a much more valuable fish, is being carefully guarded.

Q. What States of the American Union are engaged in the breeding of whitefish?—A. Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

Q. What has been the success generally of the fish-breeding system by artificial means?—A. It is now being practiced to such an extent in Canada and the United States as to show it is a very efficient mode of preventing the diminution of fish, and even of increasing the supply. It has passed the region of experiment, and it is a positive fact as shown by the large appropriations made on both sides of the border for this purpose. It commands the respect and consideration of men of all parties, and in our own country, at least, there is no difficulty in getting all appropriations that can profitably be expended to secure the result.

Q. It extends not only to the fish of the great lakes, but to river fish?—A. To salmon, shad, striped bass, and alewives.

Q. You find as the result that a much larger proportion of the eggs are turned into fish than when left to natural exposures and dangers?—A. An ordinary estimate in regard to shad is that under natural spawning 995 out of 1,000 eggs perish without producing a young fish able to feed for itself, and that you get five young fish which reach the stage of ability to feed for themselves; that is, after their fins are properly formed, and the fish is three-eighths of an inch in length. They have then passed the ordinary perils of infancy, and are able to take care of themselves. With artificial spawning, a fish culturist who could not bring out 950 of 1,000 eggs to that state would be considered as ignorant of his business, except some unusual circumstance that could not be controlled should come in to interfere.

Q. Can you tell the Commission how many traps and pounds there are in the southern part of New England, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts, at Martha's Vineyard, and all along to Cape Cod?—A. There are 22 traps on the south side of Cape Cod, in the bays and basins about Chatham, 9 in Vineyard Sound, 30 at Buzzard's Bay, 3 at Block Island, 30 in Narraganset Bay. This year there have been 94 traps and pounds on the southern coast of Rhode Island and Massachusetts, exclusive of Connecticut. I have not the figures for Connecticut here. This number represents the traps and pounds from Narraganset Bay to the eastern end of Cape Cod.

Q. Have they been increasing?—A. Yes; they are very measurably greater in number than they were when I made my first census.

Q. Can you state the number of men who are employed on those traps?—A. The number of men required to man the traps is 436, the traps requiring seven men each, taking 301.

Q. Your agent would know each of those traps?—A. I have the name of the owner, and the catch of the greater portion of them.

Q. Can you tell the Commission the catch of those traps and pounds?—A. I have here a table of the yield of that number of pounds in 1876.

Q. Give the result.—A. For some of the species, the figures are very accurate, and for others they are estimated to some extent, but this estimate is essentially a record of the year, so far as they have reported it themselves, corrected by the personal observation of one at least of my men, who has taken a standard pound, and meted it every day himself, and enumerated the catch and the kinds of fish. The total catch for 1876 included flounders, tautog, mackerel, Spanish mackerel, pompeno, butter fish, squiteagle, scup, sea-bass, striped bass, bluefish, menblades, eels, cod, alewives, and herring. The total catch for the year was 34,274,350 pounds. That is from Narragansett Bay to the

eastern end of Cape Cod, on the south coast of Massachusetts and Rhode Island only.

Q. Not the western part of Rhode Island?—A. It includes the whole of Narraganset Bay. It does not include Long Island, where there are a great many pounds, or the most westerly part of Rhode Island.

Q. Are all these pounds of fish capable of being used, and are used for food?—A. There is a large catch of menhaden in that 15 millions.

Q. How many miles of coast-line does that catch represent?—A. About 250 miles of coast-line.

Q. Have you made up a calculation of the ratio of the catch per mile?—A. I have the ratio of 137,097 pounds of fish to the line or mile.

Q. And to the men?—A. The ratio of the catch is 78,610 to each man. The total value of the weir catch at the lowest wholesale rate is \$347,900; at the lowest retail rate, \$1,472,438; at a mean rate between the two, which perhaps more exactly represents the value, \$1,160,168. That, however, is the catch of that region only with traps and pounds; there is also a very large catch with hand-lines, gill-nets and seines. This is but for 94 weirs and traps. The aggregate catch of the entire fishery on the south coast of Rhode Island and Massachusetts is 45,917,750 pounds, of the mean value of \$1,875,840, which gives a ratio of 133,671 pounds per linear mile, and equivalent to \$7,504 to the linear mile. The yield in the trap and pound fishery is over 78,610 pounds to the man, of a money value of \$2,661, being the product of each man's labor for an average not exceeding four months. That sum, to bring it to the annual amount, will have to be multiplied by three; each man thus would produce \$8,000 worth a year by this mode of fishing.

Q. You do not mean to say that each man makes that amount?—A. No; but that is the ratio of fish to the man. Those pounds are generally owned by at least one of the men who run them, who sometimes hire what additional assistance they require; perhaps, however, in half of the cases the owners manage the pounds and have no division of profits.

Q. Those statistics were prepared to show the amount of the fish, including the fresh fish as well as those salted?—A. None of these are salted except such of the salted menhaden as is for food. They do not enter into the returns of pickled fish. These fresh fish go almost exclusively to New York, very few to Boston.

Q. It seems strange that you should be able to know the amount of fresh fish that passes into the great city and what is caught every day. What method have you adopted to ascertain those facts?—A. The entire fresh-fish trade of New York is confined to nineteen firms which form the Wholesale Dealers' Association, to whose books and figures I have had access through and by the assistance of the large and retail dealer in New York, Mr. Blackford, who has taken great interest in my investigations and is a very hearty coadjutor. He has succeeded in interesting those dealers, and I have just prepared a series of blanks in which I hope to have the dealers record all the catches of fish every day and give me the returns.

Q. You have no doubt from your relations with the dealers who control the market that you know substantially the catch?—A. I cannot say; I know the maximum catch on the coast, but I know I have reason to rely upon the figures of the fish that is actually marketed and comes into the hands of the wholesale men.

Q. A large amount escapes notice?—A. Yes; all the local catch, the catch of fishermen which goes for their own benefit and is consumed on

the spot; the catch consumed in seaport towns and villages cannot be included in this enumeration.

Q. Are these caught within the treaty limits?—A. All those fish which I have mentioned are caught east of Cape May.

Q. Northeast?—A. Yes; and all caught close to the shore, by traps or pounds, usually within 100 to 300 yards of the shore, or by gill-nets and hand-lines, used by men also from the shore.

Q. The whole fishery, with pounds and nets, that goes on from the shore, and with hook and line for market fish, all comes within the treaty limits?—A. Yes, of course, the mullet and winter bluefish are south of the treaty limits; but all the fish are practically within the treaty limits.

Q. And in those fisheries the Canadians have the same rights as Americans?—A. The Canadians have the same rights there as we have. It does not include the fishery, not of Cape Cod Bay and round to Eastport.

Q. Can you make any comparison of the corresponding ratio per mile or otherwise of the Canadian fisheries?—A. I do not think I could, because I believe the returns of the Canadian fisheries are not so large as they should be. I do not believe the Canadian returns are in proportion to the actual catch. I therefore think a comparative statement would be fallacious, and I would rather not make it.

Q. Some Canada tables have been published of the fisheries of 1876, including, perhaps, cod and herring?—A. Those relate to all the fisheries. This estimate I submit is for weir-fishing on a limited coast.

Q. The Canadian returns show a total amount of \$11,000,000?—A. I think the total estimate of the Canadian fisheries for 1876 is between \$11,000,000 and \$12,000,000.

Q. If you put that of the United States at \$50,000,000, would that be a low or high estimate?—A. I think we could figure up over \$40,000,000 without any difficulty; that is, for all the fisheries.

Q. Including the lake fisheries?—A. Including hake, ring, and shellfish. Our oyster fisheries are worth \$30,000,000 a year.

Q. That is nearly double the entire Canadian return?—A. Perhaps. There are \$3,000,000 worth of oysters put in cans in Baltimore yearly.

Q. They are all included in the Canadian returns?—A. I think so. Those industries with them are not so important as ours. Our off shore codfish, lake and river, shad, salmon, herring, lobster, crab, oyster, and clam fisheries are included.

Q. Now, with reasonable legislation to limit certain methods of fishing, is there in your judgment any danger of the existence of the inshore, coast, and lake fisheries?—A. I think that the lake fisheries would have been exhausted and greatly destroyed in a comparatively limited number of years but for the timely warning taken by Canada and the United States and the measures initiated in both countries for increasing the supply.

Q. You yourself have been very much engaged on the subject of the propagation of fish?—A. Not so much in the lakes directly as in the rivers.

Q. You have shipped some of your fish by rail to California?—A. Yes.

Q. I remember reading an account of one of your large collections for California being lodged in one of the rivers by a bridge breaking down, for which collection the State has never paid?—A. Yes, a car of live fish which was being sent to California.

Q. In order to get some idea of the manipulation practiced in the breed-

ing establishments, perhaps you will state whether steam machinery is not now used?—A. That is a device we have adopted this year for the first time in hatching shad, in which, instead of depending on the natural current of the river usually employed, we make the trays filled with spawn move up and down in the water in a continuous alternation, and in that way hatching millions of eggs where formerly we could only hatch thousands.

Q. You can state a case showing the result of one year's experiment?—A. We had eleven millions of shad in Susquehanna River in about three weeks in May and June.

Q. Can you state to the Commission the result of some fish operations at Potomac River?—A. The instance to which you refer is that of black bass. The black bass is not indigenous to the Potomac River, and none were in it. About two years ago half a dozen adult fish were placed in the river, and it might now be said that the Potomac, with the exception of St. John's River, Florida, is the most prolific in black bass of any stream in the United States. Over an extent of one hundred miles, the fishing for black bass both for market and sport is unrivaled anywhere.

Q. Without claiming too much for our people, are not the ingenuity and industry of the American people in taking fish for consumption and other uses on the one hand, and in propagating them on the other, very great and very remarkable? How is that?—A. The methods of fish culture as practiced in the United States, and in Canada so far as they cover the same ground, are, we think, better than those anywhere in the Old World, and both countries hatch fish by millions where thousands are considered a large performance in Europe. The United States have a single establishment in California at which more eggs are obtained than are gathered by all European hatcheries put together. This year we have taken about six million eggs, and we have taken as many as eight millions in a year. We have an establishment now on Columbia River where we expect to hatch twenty millions of eggs. Three millions of eggs, I may say, in illustration of magnitude, would fill a hay-field cart to its utmost capacity.

Q. You have an estimate of the combined fishing of the United States for the year 1876, including the Bank fishing?—A. Yes. This is a table of the product of the marine fisheries of the United States east of Cape May within the treaty limits. The total product of the inshore fisheries of that range, the fish taken by boats from the shore, that taken by seines, by traps, pounds, &c., amounts to 319,579,950 pounds, of a mean value of \$4,064,484. The total fisheries of the United States, inshore and off shore within the limits, amount to 1,045,855,750 pounds, of the value of \$13,030,821. This is exclusive of any of the Southern fisheries, exclusive of the lake fishery, of the whale, porpoise, and seal fishery, and of the salmon, shad, and herring fishery.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Does it include the Grand Bank fishery and that at Georges?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. It is exclusive entirely of the fresh-water fish of the lakes and rivers, shad, herring, and salmon, of the whale and fur seal, of the oysters, lobsters, and crabs. The total coast line on which the fisheries are pursued is 1,112 miles, from Cape May to Eastport, including the islands. The ratio to the mile is 940,510 pounds, the ratio of value is \$11,718.

Q. Will you state how the returns are obtained?—A. The figures in regard to the herring, cod, and mackerel are obtained from the reports

of the Bureau of Statistics of the United States for 1876, the other figures are made up from a series of tables for each kind of fish. I had an estimate prepared of the production of each fishery, and those figures have been obtained partly from witnesses who have been here to testify, partly from the books of dealers in Gloucester, Boston, Newburyport, and elsewhere, partly and very largely from the returns I have gathered through agents I have sent out, and from circulars I have distributed. I have here an enumeration of all the different kinds of fish and quantity caught ; it is simply a combined table from a great many sub-tables.

Q. These tables you will put into the case ?—A. The tables were not made up by me, but under my direction. They are put in by the compiler under an affidavit.

Q. An examination will show they are very much in detail ?—A. These tables, like all those of all nations, excepting, perhaps, those of France, are imperfect, and are short of the true figures. I have no doubt that a large percentage should be added to the tables of both nations in the New World. But they are accurate as far as they go ; if they err, it is in the direction of deficiency, not of excess.

Q. It is so on both sides ?—A. Yes.

Q. You are allowed a pretty large staff of persons to assist you as writers ?—A. I have all the clerks and assistants I require. But a great many of those returns have been made to circulars. I have distributed through the Departments of the Treasury and Post-Office, and other functionaries.

Q. In view of those vast resources of the country, and the supply of sea-fish of all kinds, the improved and increased methods of catching the fish, do you think there is any one kind of fish, the entire failure of which would prove a very serious matter, such, for instance, as the mackerel obtained in the Gulf of St. Lawrence ?—A. I do not think that the entire failure of any kind of fish would affect the supply ; but this would stimulate the fishermen to renewed efforts regarding some other fish. If all the mackerel disappeared, their places would be supplied by the Southern mullet, which are more abundant than the mackerel, and which could be taken in twice the quantity, if not more. If every mackerel was destroyed the mackerel fishermen would go down to the Southern coast, and take the mullet and pickle them.

Q. Your last statement applies only to fish caught north of Cape May ?—A. Yes ; it does not include any Southern fisheries at all, or any catch of the same fish in Southern waters, such as the bluefish or the mackerel.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. Is Cape May far north of the treaty line ?—A. It is directly on the treaty line ; this line cuts off Cape May and runs just at the north point of the coast there.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. So that these tables do not include the opening of Delaware Bay ?—A. No ; but only the fisheries on the coast of New Jersey—the outer coast of New Jersey—and from that northward.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. All this evidence which you have given, with reference to the mullet becoming the fish of the future, is mere matter of speculation, is it not ?—A. It is nothing more than what I judge from the excellence of this fish, the ease with which they are taken, and the ease with which

they are cured, and the extent to which it is practiced as a local fishery by the people of North Carolina and other Southern States.

Q. Has not that fishery been known for a great many years?—A. I cannot say. I have only known it since 1872 and 1873. It probably has been known as a fishery for some years.

Q. People have eaten these mullet 20 or 30 years ago down South?—A. Yes.

Q. And it has not progressed at all as food for Northern consumption?—A. It is not now used as a food-fish in the North; but it is a fish which occupies the place of Northern fish through a large portion of the Southern States.

Q. Do you know from definite personal knowledge of your own whether they would not rather have there one single salt mackerel than a whole barrel of mullet?—A. No, I cannot say anything about that—as to their preference.

Q. I was told that this was the case no longer ago than this morning by a lady who has lived there; and I wanted to know what your experience in this respect was.—A. I must to my shame confess that I have never tasted a salt mullet; but I propose, as soon as I go home, to get a barrel of them and I will send some to Halifax for the Commission. I hope they will make up their minds to try them; I will do it the very first thing after I reach home, and I hope you will all try them.

Q. Is it not a fact well known to those who are engaged in the sea-fisheries that Southern fish, or, in other words, fish taken in warm waters, are fish that will not bear transportation to Northern climates?—A. I cannot say anything about that at all; but I know the only peculiarity about mullet is, that it is a fall and winter fishery. It is a cold-water fishery. It begins in September, and lasts until November and December.

Q. You say it is a cold-water fishery; but the water is nothing like as cold there as it is in our waters during the same months?—A. No; but the water there is about as cold in winter—if not then quite as cold—as it is here in the summer time.

Q. Could cod, from your knowledge, live in the waters which are frequented by the mullet?—A. No; neither could the mullet live in the waters which are frequented by the cod.

Q. Are not the mullet also a fat fish?—A. Yes; they are very fat.

Q. Is not this fact also against transportation?—A. I do not know. I am not versed in the physics of transportation.

Q. How long ago is it since you first turned your attention to the fisheries at all?—A. I have done so since 1871.

Q. Previous to that time your specialties lay in another direction?—A. No; I have always been interested in fish as a branch of zoology for a great many years. I have been a specialist in ichthyology, and I described prior to that date hundreds of new species.

Q. Speaking about the pounds established along the New England shore, how many of them did you say were there?—A. 94.

Q. In answer to Mr. Dana, you stated that this kind of fishing was open under the Washington Treaty to British fishermen; do you think that you are quite right in stating that?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you think that under this treaty we have a right to set down pounds upon American soil?—A. You can, subject to the consent of the owners of the shore—just the same as with respect to any fishery so prosecuted in the Dominion.

Q. Is it possible for any person to carry on the business of pound fishing, except he is a resident on the coast?—A. I see no reason why

any one from Canada could not go to Long Island Sound or to Vineyard Sound, and prosecute this fishery.

Q. Then such a person must reside there?—A. No. Very few of these pounds, and I think I may say that not one-half of the pound fishing in Buzzard's Bay and Vineyard Sound, are prosecuted by citizens of the State.

Q. A man must reside or remain there for the purpose of attending these pounds?—A. Yes; for two or three months in the year.

Q. He must be a resident of the shore for two or three months in order to attend to these pounds?—A. Certainly; he must be on the ground, as any fisherman must be when fishing, in his boat.

Q. Practically and really this is a fishery which must be carried on by persons on the spot?—A. Of course; all fisheries must be carried on on the spot; but they need not necessarily be carried on by residents of that region, or by citizens of the State. Most of these fisheries in Buzzard's Bay are carried on by people who do not usually live on the spot.

Q. At all events, do you seriously state that under the provisions of the Washington Treaty we have a right to put down pounds on the American shore?—A. I think so, with the consent of the owner of the shore.

Q. That is another question.—A. Will you kindly read the clause of the Treaty of Washington in this relation?

Q. It is as follows:

It is agreed by the High Contracting Parties that, in addition to the liberty secured to the United States fishermen by the Convention between Great Britain and the United States, signed at London on the 20th day of October, 1818, of taking, curing, and drying fish on certain coasts of the British North American Colonies therein defined, the inhabitants of the United States shall have, in common with the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, the liberty for the term of years mentioned in Article XXXIII of this treaty, to take fish of every kind, except shell-fish, on the sea-coasts and shores, and in the bays, harbors, and creeks of the Provinces of Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, and the colony of Prince Edward Island, and of the several islands thereunto adjacent, without being restricted to any distance from the shore, with permission to land upon the said coasts, and shores, and islands, and also upon the Magdalen Islands, for the purpose of drying their nets and curing their fish.

A. Yes. I do not understand that any mode of fishing is prohibited under this treaty, unless it is so mentioned in express terms, as is the case with shad, salmon, and shell-fish. I do not understand that any mode of fishing is prohibited to the citizens of the opposite nation, except what conflicts with the local law of the country.

Q. Can these pounds be put down without landing to make preparation for that purpose?—A. Yes, perfectly well. It is not absolutely necessary to go on shore at all to do it; indeed I know of a great many pounds which do not touch the shore, but which are started 20, 30, or 50 yards from the shore.

Q. Do you seriously contend that there are territorial rights given us under the Washington Treaty because you recollect that the putting down of poles in the soil is a territorial right?—A. Yes.

Q. Do I seriously understand you to contend that, under this treaty, rights are given either to the Americans on the one side or to the British on the other, as to doing anything on the shores of either country, except landing to cure fish and dry nets?—A. I understand that if you wished to start a pound in Buzzard's Bay, you could go to Naushton Island, owned by John M. Forbes, an eminent citizen of the United States, and with his permission you can do so; and that you require no permission in this regard either from the State of Massachusetts or the

Government of the United States; he has precisely the same right to give authority to put down a pound, I think, as has Ashby, who was a witness here and a native of Connecticut.

Q. That is to say that Mr. Forbes, who owns the land, could allow me to go and put down a pound there?—A. There is not the slightest question about it.

Q. Could he not do that before this treaty was ratified?—A. I do not know whether he could do so or not; I cannot say anything about that; that is a legal question.

Q. He could have given me that right previous to the treaty just as well as since?—A. I do not know what exact right the treaty may give in this relation; but that is no reason why this might not be done. I consider that this fishery is now perfectly open to Canadians.

Q. Has not the mode in which the rivers on the coast of Maine have been treated for a number of years back depleted the waters on that coast or on the New England coast of cod, for instance, which you say was once one of the most important fish found there?—A. The destruction of river fish, in my opinion, has had more to do with the diminution of inshore fish, such as cod and haddock—

Q. And mackerel, too?—A. No, not mackerel; this has nothing to do with them. Mackerel cannot be considered in that connection, because they do not depend on the fish of those rivers for food; but I think that such destruction has more than anything else to do with the decrease of these fish I have mentioned, inshore; and the result of the measures which are now being taken by the States of Maine and Massachusetts, in restoring the river fisheries, will bring back the original historical abundance of the sea-fish inshore.

Q. What this will do is as yet in the womb of the future; but at present are not those fisheries depleted?—A. The boat-fisheries for cod and haddock are now much inferior in yield on most parts of that coast to what was the case 50 or 100 years ago.

Q. You now allude to the coast-fisheries within the three-mile limit?—A. Yes; the fisheries carried on in open boats, which go out as far as a man can comfortably go in a day and come back again.

Q. Do you wish the Commission to understand that this system of treating the rivers has destroyed the food of sea-fish, and therefore that the bait or food is not there to induce the cod to come inshore, but that this has had no effect on the fish outside of the three-mile limit?—A. I cannot say how far out the effect extends, because some distance outside of the limits there are other fishes, such as herring and mackerel, and food of various kinds which they can get at.

Q. Is it possible that the inshore fisheries can be either destroyed or very considerably depleted within the three-mile limit and yet leave the fisheries just outside of this limit as good as ever?—A. I think so.

Q. And undiminished?—A. I think so, for the very reason that these fish naturally keep off from the shore. They are off-shore fish, and we find them largely inshore at certain seasons of the year because they then follow the fish that are coming inshore; and if you had an enormous number of shad and alewives and salmon, and especially of alewives and shad inshore, that involves their pursuit by an enormous number of predatory fish, such as cod and haddock and pollock, just exactly as the same fish follow the herring and caplin on the coasts of the Dominion and Newfoundland.

Q. Then I understand you to mean that, although the food which these fishes prey upon may be destroyed by reason of the depletion of the rivers, this will only affect the fishing within three miles of the shore

and have no effect on the fishing beyond this limit?—A. I cannot say how far it will have effect.

Q. Will this effect stop short of the three-mile limit?—A. I think there are a great many concurrent agencies which affect the fish supply at different seasons on the different parts of the coast, and that while the inshore fishing of herring and shad, or other incoming fish, regulates that to some extent, it does not cover the whole ground.

Q. I want a direct answer: are you able to state that the destruction of bait, by reason of the bad treatment of these rivers, only affects the fishing along the coast to the extent of three miles from it?—A. I cannot say that; I cannot say how far such effect extends, and nobody can do so.

Q. It is reasonable to suppose that it extends for a considerable distance farther than three miles from the coast?—A. That I cannot say.

Q. Would this not more likely drive the fish to other coasts where the rivers are not so treated?—A. Fish certainly have to go where they can get food, and if they cannot procure it on one spot they have to go to some other spot for it.

Q. Is it not probable that they will go where the rivers are not so badly treated?—A. This depends on how far cod and haddock will migrate, under any circumstances. If they leave the shore, but can find an ample supply of food on Georges Bank or on Nantucket Shoals, they will probably stay there.

Q. Do cod migrate at all? Is this known for a certainty to be the case?—A. It is not certain that they have such migrations as we ascribe to the bluefish and mackerel; whether they traverse a mile of sea-bottom in search of food, or whether they go 100 miles for it, under any circumstances, I cannot say.

Q. I understood you to say yesterday that you could not trace their migrations at all?—A. No, I cannot.

Q. And you do not pretend to say that they do migrate? I rather understood you to say also that mackerel do not migrate?—A. They migrate, but they do not sweep along the coast—at least I do not think they do so, as was formerly supposed, for very many miles; but rather come direct from their winter grounds inshore.

Q. I understood you to say, your theory at present was that there was a vast body of mackerel which, forming one wing of their army, passed along the American coast; and that another wing directed their course into the gulf?—A. Yes.

Q. I see that in the Answer of the United States, page 10, the following language is used:

The migration of mackerel in the spring begins on the Atlantic coast from a point as far south as Cape Hatteras. The first-comers reach Provincetown, Mass., about May 10. Here they begin to scatter, and they are found during the entire season along the New England coast.

"Whatever may be the theories of others on the subject," says Professor Baird, "the American mackerel fisher knows perfectly well that in spring, about May, he will find the schools of mackerel off Cape Hatteras, and that he can follow them northward, day by day, as they move in countless myriads on to the coast of Maine, of Nova Scotia, and into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. They may be occasionally lost sight of by their sinking below the surface; but they are sure to present themselves, shortly after, to those who look for them farther north and east."

Do you now adhere to that statement?—A. I think that was not the most philosophical expression on that subject. My views in regard to the proper theory concerning mackerel have been modified since then, to the extent I have alleged.

Q. In fact, if I correctly understood you yesterday, you rather inclined

to the theory which has been started here, that mackerel are not a migratory fish at all, but hybernate in the mud?—A. I cannot precisely say; but the evidence is quite strong in favor of hybernation of some kind, though I do not consider the case proven in this respect; at the same time I do not consider it philosophical to refuse to countenance its possibility.

Q. Will you tell me how, if possible, it could be otherwise, if it is true that the mackerel have, in the spring, scales over their eyes, as has been described by witnesses here, and, as I understand, you admit.—A. I cannot say that this is the case; I have never seen it.

Q. If these scales are on their eyes they could not possibly do otherwise than hibernate?—A. I cannot say that; I am not a mackerel, and I could not tell what they do or what they do not do.

Q. Is it certain that any fish, that you are aware of, hibernate in the mud?—A. That is not certain, but it is believed to be the case.

Q. Do you know of any fish which certainly does hibernate?—A. The eel does.

Q. Is its eyes protected against the mud by scales?—A. This is not the case so far as I know. It has not been noted or reported.

Q. How has it become a theory if it has never been noted? Is it the want of experience with reference to mackerel that you do not know whether scales are found over its eyes or not?—A. I have never caught mackerel in the critical period of the year when they are said to have scales over their eyes; but a specimen which I have preserved in alcohol did have scales over its eyes, though the action of the alcohol on the cornea of the eye always tends to make it opaque and destroys its transparency.

Q. Is there any period of the year when mackerel must be prevented from seeing, as far as you can judge from the specimen which you possess?—A. No; I cannot say that.

Q. What are these scales for?—A. I cannot say. The theory of the fishermen, however, is that it is to curb the roving habits of the mackerel, and make it more ready to stay in the mud; and that otherwise they would not want to stay there; that is the hypothesis of the fishermen, and I give it for what it is worth.

Q. You do not assent to it?—A. No; it is not proven to be true.

Q. And it is not disproven?—A. All that is proven in this respect is, that in winter we do not see the mackerel; they do not then school on the surface, nor do they go to the West Indies, or to Bermuda, or to Florida; nor do they then appear on the surface anywhere as far as the testimony has gone.

Q. With reference to the inshore fisheries in the State of Maine, and in the States of New England, generally, are they depleted or not?—A. The boat-fisheries there are not what they were 50 or 100 years ago; that, I think, I am perfectly safe in saying; but whether there has been any decrease in them during the past few years I cannot say.

Q. I now quote from your own report, part second, for the years 1872 and 1873, page xi; it is headed "Conclusions as to decrease of cod-fisheries on the New England coast," and it states:

Of all the various fisheries formerly prosecuted directly off the coast of New England, north of Cape Cod, the depreciation in that of the cod appears to be of the greatest economical importance. Formerly the waters abounded in this fish to such an extent that a large supply could be taken throughout almost the entire year along the Banks, especially in the vicinity of the mouths of the large rivers. At that time the tidal streams were almost choked up with the alewives, shad, and salmon that were struggling for entrance in the spring, and which filled the adjacent waters throughout a great part of the year.

As is well known, the erection of impassable dams across the streams, by preventing the ascent of the species just mentioned to their spawning-grounds, produced a very great diminution, and almost the extermination, of their numbers, so that whereas in former years a large trade could be carried on during the proper season, now nothing would be gained by the effort.

On page xii you say this :

It would, therefore, appear that while the river-fisheries have been depreciated or destroyed by means of dams or by exhaustive fishing, the codfish have disappeared in equal ratio. This is not, however, for the same reason, as they are taken only with the line, at a rate more than compensated by the natural fecundity of the fish. I am well satisfied, however, that there is a relation of cause and effect between the present and past condition of the two series of fish; and in this I am supported by the opinion of Capt. U. S. Treat, of Eastport, by whom, indeed, the idea was first suggested to me. Captain Treat is a successful fisherman, and dealer in fish on a very large scale, and at the same time a gentleman of very great intelligence and knowledge of the many details connected with the natural history of our coast-fishes, and in this respect worthily representing Captain Atwood, of Provincetown. It is to Captain Treat that we owe many experiments on the reproduction of alewives in ponds, and the possibility of keeping salmon in fresh waters for a period of years. The general conclusions which have been reached, as the result of repeated conversations with Captain Treat and other fishermen on the coast, incline me to believe that the reduction in the cod and other fisheries, so as to become practically a failure, is due to the decrease off our coast in the quantity, primarily, of alewives, and secondarily of shad and salmon, more than to any other cause.

It is well known by the old residents of Eastport that from thirty to fifty years ago cod could be taken in abundance in Passamaquoddy Bay and off Eastport, where only stragglers are now to be caught. The same is the case at the mouth of the Penobscot River and at other points along the coast, where once the fish came close in to the shore, and were readily captured with the hook throughout the greater part of the year.

A. Yes.

Q. Do you dissent now from that opinion?—A. No; I used that as an impressive lesson to the State legislature to induce them to pass the measures necessary to restore these river fisheries, which they are now doing very rapidly.

Q. Where is Capt. U. S. Treat, of Eastport, now?—A. In Japan, teaching the Japanese how to catch and cure fish.

Q. On page xiv of this Report you say :

Whatever may be the importance of increasing the supply of salmon, it is trifling compared with the restoration of our exhausted cod-fisheries; and should these be brought back to their original condition, we shall find within a short time an increase of wealth on our shores, the amount of which it would be difficult to calculate. Not only would the general prosperity of the adjacent States be enhanced, but in the increased number of vessels built, in the large number of men induced to devote themselves to maritime pursuits, and in the general stimulus to everything connected with the business of the sea-faring profession, we should be recovering, in a great measure, from that loss which has been the source of so much lamentation to political economists and well-wishers of the country.

That you still adhere to?—A. Certainly. I made that report as impressive as I could in order to produce the effect desired, which was to cause the legislature to pass a law in this regard, and it has had that effect. They have passed such laws, and I hope that this evil will be remedied in a reasonable number of years.

Q. It is not remedied yet?—A. No.

Q. It takes a number of years to do that?—A. I can give an instance where it has had such effect, if you like to have it. In Massachusetts the most has been done for the restoration of alewives and shad in the Merrimack River; and the shore fisheries there have now increased in a very marked degree. At the present time it is perfectly possible for a man to go out in a boat from the city of Newburyport and catch 4,000 pounds of codfish and bring them back the same night. This is the only river in Massachusetts in which very great efforts have been made to restore these river fisheries; and it is now possible to capture these fish

in much greater quantities than was the case 10 years ago; and this I ascribe to the action of the State government with regard to the restoration of river fish.

Q. How many pounds did you mention?—A. 4,000.

Q. Caught by a single man?—A. Two men will do it; a man with a trawl and an assistant will go out in an open boat in the morning from the city of Newburyport and come back at night, or go out at night and return in the morning, and in the mean time take 4,000 pounds of cod. That is the only point along there at which, at that distance from the shore, I know that it is possible to catch cod in such numbers.

Q. Must not a great lapse of time, or at least a very considerable lapse of time occur, before the fisheries destroyed, as you have here described, can be restored by the process you speak of?—A. I think that this depends on the amount of time necessary for the restoration of the fish, which run out to sea from the rivers. I think that if this year there are no such fish as alewives, &c., to run into these rivers, and that if next year a great army was to so run in, concurrent with that army, an army of cod and other fish would be there to prey upon them.

Q. I see that in your Report for 1872 and 1873, referring to the lake fish, you say on page lxxxi :

The restoration of food-fishes to localities originally tenanted by them, or their transfer to new waters, is, however, a question of time; and in the immense extent of our river and lake systems, many years must necessarily elapse before the work can be accomplished.

A. That is a great number of years, certainly; but that does not so much refer to any particular river as to the aggregate rivers and lakes scattered over the whole body of the United States.

Q. You say here that "many years must necessarily elapse"?—A. Certainly.

Q. When did you commence this work?—A. The actual process of artificial propagation began, under my direction, in 1872.

Q. Do you refer to any term of years? I suppose that you mean a period of 10, 12, or 14 years.—A. It might be more. The time of course depends on the expenditure involved, and the concurrence of suitable legislation to protect the fish, and many other points.

Q. How many fish-breeding establishments have you in the States?—A. Nearly every State in the Union has now a series of fish commissioners, whose business it is to propagate fish within their borders.

Q. There is only one in each State?—A. There is one State establishment; and a certain number of private establishments in each, founded for the purpose of gain.

Q. Do you know how many there are in Canada?—A. I know there are a great many. Canada is doing most admirably in this respect.

Q. And very much more in proportion than the United States?—A. No; I think not. I think by far less in proportion.

Q. In proportion?—A. Yes.

Q. To population?—A. I do not say according to population. I shall qualify that statement by saying that what is done in Canada is done on a much less scale of magnitude than is the case in the United States. I mean that the aggregate of artificial propagation in the United States is much greater than the aggregate in Canada; but I would not take a ratio. I think that both Canada and the United States are doing as much as they can in this regard, in the time that has been allowed for the purpose.

Q. I suppose that Canada is doing a very large work in this connection?—A. She is doing most admirably—yes.

Q. She is expending large sums of money on it?—A. Certainly. She is doing most admirably. I am very happy to say that Canada and the United States are working concurrently in a great many directions in the line of artificial fish culture.

Q. Do you know the Canadian establishment on Detroit River?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it doing a large business?—A. I don't know what it is doing this year; but last year I understand that it did a very large business.

Q. It then hatched 10,000,000 eggs?—A. Yes, very likely.

Q. You say that cod cannot live except in cold water?—A. The cod is an inhabitant of the colder waters.

Q. Are you aware whether or not the Gulf Stream during the summer months swings in at all more toward the American coast?—A. It does.

Q. For how many miles?—A. I cannot say.

Q. Would that have any effect in driving the cod away from the American shores?—A. No; not the slightest.

Q. You think not?—A. Yes; it has not the slightest effect on them. If you go down to a certain depth in the ocean, in the tropics or anywhere else, you will find the water cold enough for cod; and there is nothing to prevent the cod being as abundant in tropical waters—say off Brazil or the West Indies—as anywhere else; as far as temperature is concerned, it is cold enough there for them at a certain depth.

Q. Have they ever been caught there?—A. Not that I know of; but the water there is cold enough for them.

Q. Is it not very venturesome to state that there is nothing to prevent them staying there?—A. They may be there, but they have not been caught there. Nobody has fished at those great depths, for you have got to go down from 6,000 to 15,000 and 20,000 feet to find that temperature in tropical seas.

Q. Have you the slightest idea as to what sort of animals reside down there?—A. Yes. We have a very good knowledge of such species as can be taken up by the trawling line and dredge from those depths; and we know that an ample supply of food suitable for cod is to be found there.

Q. Has any beam-trawl or dredge ever taken cod in those regions?—A. No; you do not catch cod with small trawls any more than you can so catch whales.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Would not the temperature in those waters interfere with the spawn of the cod, as this spawn floats?—A. I think that the water there might be too warm for the development of codfish eggs in the abstract; but the effect would be to make them hatch out more rapidly than would be the case in cold water. Of course it is a very serious question to decide whether, with the present constitution of the cod, its eggs would develop in warm water, though whether it might not evolve and develop into a warm-water cod I do not know.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. On page 60 of your Report for 1872 and 1873, you use the following language:

It is in another still more important connection that we should consider the alewife. It is well known that within the last thirty or forty years the fisheries of cod, haddock, and hake along our coasts have measurably diminished, and in some places ceased entirely. Enough may be taken for local consumption, but localities which formerly furnished the material for an extensive commerce in dried fish have been entirely abandoned.

Various causes have been assigned for this condition of things, and, among others, the alleged diminution of the sea-herring. After a careful consideration of the subject, however, I am strongly inclined to believe that it is due to the diminution, and, in many instances, to the extermination of the alewives. As already remarked, before the construction of dams in the tidal rivers the alewife was found in incredible numbers along our coast, probably remaining not far from shore, excepting when moving up into the fresh water, and, at any rate, spending a considerable interval off the mouths of the rivers either at the time of their journey upward or on their return. The young, too, after returning from the ocean, usually swarmed in the same localities, and thus furnished for the larger species a bait such as is not supplied at present by any other fish, the sea-herring not excepted. We know that the alewife is particularly attractive as a bait to other fishes, especially for cod and mackerel.

A. Do I say mackerel?

Q. Yes.—A. That is an inadvertence. I do not think that the alewife is a bait for mackerel.

Q. You say:

We know that the alewife is particularly attractive as a bait to other fishes, especially for cod and mackerel.

A. Well, I should not have said that.

Q. The alewives are the same as the fish we call gaspereaux in New Brunswick?—A. Yes.

Q. You further say:

Alewives enter the streams on the south coast of New England before the arrival of the bluefish; but the latter devote themselves with great assiduity to the capture of the young as they come out from their breeding-ponds. The outlet of an alewife pond is always a capital place for the blue-fish, and as they come very near the shore in such localities, they can be caught there with the line by what is called "heaving and hauling," or throwing a squid from the shore, and hauling it in with the utmost rapidity.

The coincidence, at least, in the erection of the dams, and the enormous diminution in the number of the alewives, and the decadence of the inshore cod-fishery, is certainly very remarkable. It is probable, also, that the mackerel fisheries have suffered in the same way, as these fish find in the young menhaden and alewives an attractive bait.

You see you say that twice.—A. That is an inadvertence.

Q. You say:

It is probable also that the mackerel fisheries have suffered in the same way, as these fish find in the young menhaden and alewives an attractive bait.

A. This is the case on the northern coast probably.

Q. It is hardly an inadvertence?—A. It is an inadvertence. It is a conclusion that is not justified by the fact.

Q. Then you dissent from that opinion now?—A. Yes; I do not consider that it has a bearing on the mackerel question.

Q. All that goes to show that all these speculative opinions are entitled to little weight; you see that you have changed your opinion in this respect?—A. Certainly; as the data vary the conclusions also vary.

Q. I suppose you will admit that there is not the slightest reason why within the next three years you may not have come back to the same opinion which you now repudiate, or have then formed opinions totally different from those which you now express before the Commission?—

A. I cannot say; that will depend entirely on the facts as they come.

Q. After all, this is all the purest theory?—A. It is an hypothesis; it is not a theory.

Q. Well, it is an hypothesis?—A. It is not a theory until it is absolutely certified by the facts.

Q. Then, of course, an hypothesis is more vague than a theory. You gave in a mass of figures just now, which you state were made up by your assistant, based upon information which you have got from some

of the witnesses here, in answer to questions put them, and what not—have I understood you rightly?—A. Partly.

Q. And your assistant has verified them by his affidavit—have I understood you rightly?—A. Yes; they are verified by the affidavit of the assistant who made them up.

Q. What sort of an affidavit is it? Does he state that these figures are correct, or simply that they are there?—A. He certifies that he has compiled them, and what they represent.

(For this affidavit see No. 3, Appendix O.)

Q. In point of fact you cannot yourself swear that this statement is correct?—A. I cannot swear that; but it is made up from the statistics of the Fishery Commission and investigations.

Q. Even to that I do not think you can swear?—A. No more than Mr. Whitcher or Mr. Smith can swear to the correctness of Canadian statistics.

Q. You directed it to be made up by one of your assistants?—A. Yes.

Q. And you do not know whether it has been made up correctly or not?—A. No more than any man can swear to the accuracy of his assistant's work.

Q. As a fact, you have no personal knowledge as to its correctness?—A. Certainly not.

Q. You directed it to be done?—A. Precisely; it stands on the same footing as any table made up by a clerk.

Q. Did you directly take into consideration statements made by witnesses here?—A. I have very largely taken into consideration inquiries made by Mr. Goode, my assistant, of witnesses here, according to the same definite plan which I have adopted elsewhere.

Q. Inasmuch as we have not the results of what these inquiries were, and since the Commissioners have not them before them, none of these inquiries which you made, and none of the information which you thus obtained, are before us, the papers being locked up in your desk.—A. They are all in the archives of the Fishery Commission.

Q. Then we have no means of testing the accuracy of those figures?—A. No; not the slightest. They are there for what they are worth. I present them with the affidavit which was made by my assistant.

Q. You admit that you have not furnished us with any means of at-testing their accuracy?—A. You must take them for what they are worth. They are of the same value as any table published by the Fishery Department of Canada or the United States or anywhere else.

Q. If I rightly understood your answer to Mr. Dana yesterday, you rather think that the throwing over of offal amounts to nothing?—A. No; I do not think that it does amount to anything.

Q. I thought you gave a rather interesting description of sea-fleas.—A. I merely say that it is a question whether it is or was injurious to the food of fishes on the coast, as has been maintained. It is a question as to which we have no definite proof that it injures the fishes; and I am inclined to believe that it has more of a local and immediate effect on the fish than it does injury to the fish.

Q. Would it not necessarily injure the spawn in its neighborhood?—A. No.

Q. You think not?—A. No.

Q. Not if thrown over on the top of spawn?—A. No; you might throw it over all day long and try to injure a load of floating spawn and you could not do it. Nobody has ever suggested that gurry affects the spawn. By spawn I suppose you mean eggs.

Q. Yes.—A. No; nothing of the kind is to be thought of.

Q. You quoted yesterday Mr. Whiteaves's Report ; he says on page 11 :

In case Americans are allowed to fish in Canadian waters, the custom (said to be practiced by them) of splitting the fish caught at sea, and throwing the offal overboard, on the fishing ground, should not be permitted.

A. I do not think that I quoted Mr. Whiteaves on that point, but with regard to the spawning-time of mackerel in the bay.

Q. In your Report of 1872 and 1873, Mr. Milner is your assistant ?—

A. Yes.

Q. On page 19 I find this language used :

THROWING OFFAL ON THE FISHING-GROUNDS.—It is the uniform testimony of all fishermen that throwing offal or dead fish in the vicinity of the fishing-grounds is offensive to the whitefish, and drives him away. The whitefish is peculiarly cleanly in its instincts, and has an aversion for muddy or foul water of any description. Most fishermen regard their own interest sufficiently to be careful in this particular, while many careless and shiftless men injure themselves and others by dumping offal and dead fish anywhere in the lake where they find it convenient, reducing the catch in the vicinity for several months.

A. Yes.

Q. It is also stated :

Unsalable fishes are generally thrown overboard in the vicinity of the nets.

You do not dissent from that opinion ?—**A.** No ; not at all. The cases, however, are totally different. There are no scavengers in fresh water as there are in the sea ; there are no sea-fleas, or sculpin, or lobsters, or anything of the kind, to clean up offal in fresh water, as is the case in the ocean.

Q. In your opinion, are purse-seiners proper or improper agents for taking fish ?—**A.** I have not formed any opinion on the subject ; but I am inclined to think, however, that this is not a destructive mode of fishing. They destroy a good many fish, but I do not think that they diminish the absolute number of fish in the sea.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. Will you repeat that ?—**A.** I say I do not think that they affect the total number of the fish in the sea materially, although they destroy and waste a great many fish. If you will permit me I would state my reason for this view ; it is this : Every school of mackerel has a large body of predatory fish attendant upon it, such as dogfish, sharks, and other species, which are bound to have so many fish a day. They will eat their one, two, or three fish a day, and if they cannot get them dead they will eat them alive ; therefore, if a large body of young mackerel is thrown out of these purse-seines, besides mackerel which are rejected and worthless, the predatory fish that are attendant upon the mackerel will eat these dead fish, and if they do not find them dead they will take them alive ; so it does not affect the number of fish in the sea.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. Are you positive about that ; do you undertake to say that the predaceous fishes will, in preference to capturing live fish, which they can easily do, be content with dead ones ?—**A.** I think that is very likely.

Q. There, there—you say “very likely” ?—**A.** I cannot say. I am not a predaceous fish ; but I would prefer a live fish. I am pretty sure, however, that these fish are quite ready to be saved the trouble of taking their prey. It is on precisely the same principle that bait-fish, such as caplin and herring, are placed on hooks and cast overboard to catch the same fish, which follow and eat them in the natural way. I think this may be inferred from that.

Q. You have something to do with the Annual Record of Science and Industry, I believe?—A. Something—yes.

Q. Do you agree with the language used in an article contained on page 473 of this journal for 1872?—A. I did not write that, but I published it.

Q. Have you in any article stated that you dissent from it?—A. No. It is not my business to do so. That article merely reflects the opinion of the writer. I would be very sorry to believe one-half of what I publish in that periodical; but it expresses the progress of belief and science, and I take it accordingly.

Q. It is a matter of speculation whether dead fish are eaten, as you say, by predaceous fishes; this is mere theory?—A. I have no doubt that they are so eaten.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. You have stated that the largest quantity of codfish taken in the shortest possible time was in the vicinity of the Loffoden Islands?—A. Yes.

Q. You said that something like 25 millions were taken by 12,000 people?—A. Yes.

Q. In a very short time—in the course of three months?—A. Yes; and in a very small space.

Q. Where did you get your statistics from?—A. From a report of the Norwegian Government.

Q. For what year?—A. 1868, I think.

Q. Whose report was it?—A. It is an extremely hard jaw-breaking title; it is an abstract, prepared by Hermann Baars, of Bergen, Norway. It was an article prepared by him for presentation at the Paris Exhibition.

Q. You have not seen reports published since that time?—A. O, yes; I have them much later.

Q. Did these later statistics correspond with the former as regards the quantity?—A. I know that the capture of cod in Loffoden Islands, in 1876, amounted to 21 or 22 millions; I have the figures here.

Q. Are you aware what quantity of codfish is caught on the coast of Newfoundland?—A. No. I have been earnestly trying to get the statistics of Newfoundland in this respect, but I have not been able to obtain them as yet. I hope you will send them to me.

Q. You are not aware whether it is an inshore or deep-sea fishery on that island?—A. No. I know nothing about it.

Q. You say that fish are dried and used as food for cattle in these islands and in Norway?—A. Yes.

Q. What sort of cattle use it?—A. Horses, oxen, and cows; they eat it with great avidity.

Q. What portion do they make use of?—A. Any part, but more generally the heads, which are offal; they make most admirable nutriment.

Q. You say that a great many nations dress very largely in the skins of cod and salmon?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you kindly tell me what nations these are?—A. They are Tchukchei, the Aleutian Islanders, the Norton Sound Esquimaux, other natives of Alaska, and a few others.

Q. You say further that the most extensive resorts of cod are the Grand Banks and George's Bank; can you tell me the quantity of fish taken on these banks?—A. No; I have not made any investigation or tabulation in this regard.

Q. Then you really base that opinion upon no data?—A. I merely base it on my general impression on that subject. I merely speak of

these as being the most prominent particular banks and localities which the cod frequent. In speaking of the islands and other places in this connection, I mentioned banks off the coast of Labrador, but I did not refer to the great sweep of northern waters where the cod is found diffused. I referred more particularly to the places that are known and publicly mentioned. What is not published in this regard I know nothing about.

Q. With reference to Labrador, can you answer whether the fish are taken inshore—that is, within the three-mile range, or on the Banks offshore?—A. I am told, but I cannot say with what certainty, that at certain seasons of the year the cod are there taken in great quantities inshore from boats, but that the great bodies of the fish are on the Banks at some distance from the shore.

Q. Are these Banks fished?—A. That I cannot tell.

Q. Where are these Banks?—A. As far as I can learn, they extend at a distance of some 15 or 25 miles, perhaps, along almost the entire length of the coast of Labrador.

Q. Will you pledge yourself to that statement?—A. No; I know nothing about it.

Q. From whom did you get this information?—A. From the published writings of Professor Hind.

Q. I think he indicates in these writings the exact position of these Banks?—A. I think that probably he does. I may have located them too near or too far from the shore. I speak merely in general terms.

Q. I think that his report only indicates the existence of banks on certain portions of the coast of Labrador?—A. Perhaps I may have made them too extensive.

Q. You have referred to a bank on which codfish are taken, off Cape Cod, about 20 miles, I think, in length; can you give me any information as regards the annual product of this bank?—A. I think you will find that given in Captain Atwood's testimony.

Q. Can you give it?—A. No; I know nothing of it, except from Captain Atwood.

Q. Is any report made in any public office in Massachusetts or the States, from which you can gather information as regards the exact quantity of fish taken outside of the three-mile limit, and inside of this limit?—A. No.

Q. In other words, is a report concerning the quantity of fish taken within and without this limit published?—A. No.

Q. Is nothing published in this relation?—A. It is my business, or my self-imposed mission to collect that information, and I am doing so as fast as I can. I hope that my next report will contain a great deal of this and other useful information.

Q. How many vessels are engaged in this fishery off Cape Cod?—A. I cannot tell you; but I have a great deal of information on this subject in my records, which, however, I do not carry with me, and I do not trust my memory for anything.

Q. I think you referred to the herring fishery as yielding a very great quantity of fish on the American coast?—A. Yes.

Q. On the coast of the United States?—A. Yes.

Q. And the coast of Massachusetts?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that yield so great as you mention, during the winter?—A. It is during both spring and fall. These fish are found all along the coast in the spring.

Q. During what months is this the case in the spring?—A. In April and May.

Q. And in winter?—A. I do not think that they are caught in winter north of Cape Cod; I do not think so; but so little is known of the biology and the natural history of herring that this might be the fact, and yet it be not known—I mean not known to the ordinary public. It was entirely new to me five years ago that herring spawned on the Massachusetts coast at all.

Q. Then there is no winter herring-fishery there?—A. The winter fishery is a very small one; it is carried on around Block Island and Narragansett Bay, but whether capabilities exist for prosecuting a winter fishery elsewhere on the coast I cannot say.

Q. How do you account then for the fact that such a number of your vessels come to the southern coast of Newfoundland for herring, if they are so prolific on your own coast?—A. That I cannot say. Why trade follows one line or direction rather than another I do not know. They may not have appliances for catching them on our coast, and they may not have the means of taking them in such quantities as is possible at Newfoundland; but it is certainly a notorious fact that herring are much more abundant on the coast of Newfoundland than they are on the coast of the United States; though whether the herring that are wanted on the United States coast could or could not be had in the United States, I cannot say; but I do think that herring are vastly more abundant in Newfoundland and the Bay of Fundy than they are farther south.

Q. That accounts, then, for the number of your vessels that come to Newfoundland for them, no doubt. Give us the number of miles of United States coast along which fishing rights have been conceded to British subjects under the Washington Treaty?—A. 1,112.

Q. Can you give the extent of the Dominion coast, including that of Newfoundland?—A. Yes; the coast line of the Province of Canada is 810 miles; of New Brunswick, 1,000 miles; of Nova Scotia, 390 miles; of Newfoundland, 1,650 miles; of Grand Manan, 30 miles; of Prince Edward Island, 285 miles; of the Magdalen Islands, 85 miles; and of Anticosti Island, 265 miles; the total length of the coast line of Eastern British North America is 4,515 miles, four times that of the United States east of Cape Cod.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Following the bays?—A. Following the large bays, but omitting the smaller ones.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. In your statement regarding the annual product of the Dominion fisheries, you have not included the Newfoundland fisheries?—A. No; I have only that of the Dominion of Canada.

Q. Are you aware that something like 1,500,000 or 1,600,000 quintals of fish are caught in Newfoundland alone?—A. I think that is very probable, but I do not know.

Q. Besides the large herring fishery?—A. I am very anxious to know exactly what the Newfoundland catch is; I have made inquiries respecting it; but I have not been able to obtain any such public data.

Q. You say that the depletion of the codfish on the coast has been the result of the depletion of the river fisheries on the coast of Massachusetts?—A. I gave that as presumably one reason for it. It is probably a very important element in the fishery.

Q. Then any act which may prove injurious to the bay fisheries on the coast would seriously affect the inshore fisheries by removing that which induced the cod to go on the coast?—A. Yes; it would have its effect, I think. Possibly a very decided effect.

Q. As a naturalist I would ask you to answer one or two questions. What do you mean by the term "fish"? Can you give us a definition?—

A. Well, a fish is a cold-blooded vertebrate, having a particular mode of respiration. It breathes through gills instead of lungs, and it has a heart of a particular construction.

Q. I will read the definition from a book published in New York by Harper Brothers, the *Encyclopedia of Commerce*, edited by ———. I presume that is an authority that can be relied upon (reads definition). I suppose that is a definition that can be relied upon?—A. No; I think it cannot be relied upon at all. That would make anything that floats in the water a fish. So that the seal would be a fish and the otter would be a fish.

Q. This is the *Encyclopedia of Commerce*. I suppose it is reliable. I mean as an encyclopedia of commerce?—A. Well, I don't know. I don't think it is quoted very much. It is probably a very good compilation. There are a great many books of that class that one has occasion to look at without feeling that they are perfectly accurate.

Q. Do you consider the seal a fish?—A. Not at all.

Q. Why?—A. Because it is a warm-blooded mammal. It breathes by means of lungs, &c.

Q. Is not the whale the same?—A. The whale is no more a fish than the seal.

Q. It is a mammal; it is a swimmer?—A. If you were to fall overboard in mid-ocean you would be a swimmer.

Q. How is it with the walrus?—A. It is a mammal, not a fish.

Q. So is the whale, is it not?—A. Yes.

Q. How do you draw a distinction between the whale and the seal; the one you consider a fish and the other not?—A. I don't consider the seal a fish.

Q. I thought you did. Now, don't you consider it a very unreasonable action on the part of the United States, the refusal to admit seal-oil as fish-oil. Perhaps you don't care to answer?—A. I don't object to answer. I am not a politician. I am perfectly willing to answer the question. I know that the penguin is considered a fish, commercially—that is, that penguin-oil is received in England as fish-oil.

Q. That is a very important matter. I should like very much to have it taken down that, as a commercial oil, the penguin-oil is considered a fish-oil?—A. It is in London.

Q. Is it not in the United States?—A. No; but as far as I am informed the oil is classified in the London custom-house and trade returns as a fish-oil.

Q. What is the quintal in weight?—A. 112 pounds in some localities, and in some 100 pounds.

Q. It was given here as 114 pounds?—A. Well, it might be 114 pounds. It is simply my impression that the quintal is considered 112 pounds. I would not be positive. A practical fish-dealer would give more positive information than I could.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Here, on the 148th page of *British Testimony* we have a letter from Governor Hill to the Earl of Kimberly, taken from the journals of the legislative council in Newfoundland. It appears here, in the evidence of Judge Bennett, as follows :

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
Newfoundland, July 4, 1871.

MY LORD: I have the honor to inform your lordship that on the 1st instant I sent a telegram to your lordship, as follows, viz: "In reference

to terms of Washington Treaty, it is understood that fish-oil includes seal-oil. Explanation will oblige this government." And on the 3d instant received the following reply, viz: "I am of opinion that fish-oil does not include seal-oil.—EARL KIMBERLY."

I have, &c.,

STEPHEN J. HILL.

The Right Honorable the EARL OF KIMBERLEY,
&c., &c., &c.

Now you were asked a question what you thought of the exclusion of that oil.

Mr. WHITEWAY. He didn't answer it.

Mr. DANA. You withdrew it, didn't you? Perhaps this letter occurred to your mind.

The PRESIDENT. We suggested that the question had better be withdrawn.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Before you leave, there are one or two questions I would like to ask you. We have been told by a witness—I think it was your pilot—that there was a difference in the appearance of the codfish that was caught in certain waters. I would like to ask if you have noticed that yourself.—A. Yes, there are a great many varieties of cod. They are, as far as I believe, one species, but they assume peculiar varieties, depending upon the particular bottom they are found on and the food they consume. Experts will tell you from what Banks particular fish are taken. For instance, inshore cod are nearly all red, while outside cod are gray. Some have larger heads, some smaller, some have stout shoulders, and some are slender, but all these differences are local and do not involve a distinction of species.

Q. Would not that, in your opinion, confirm the theory that the cod is not really a migratory fish?—A. It would. That is very good evidence that there is no great migration.

Q. There is another question I wished to ask you. You gave us a very interesting account of a company that has been formed for the purpose of catching these predaceous fish, and you seemed to think it would have the effect of materially diminishing their numbers. Well, if human means can reduce the predaceous fish, would you not think that the appliances that are being used by fishermen must be diminishing the edible fish?—A. I don't think that the amount captured by man has any appreciable influence upon the supply of fish in the sea.

Q. Well, that is what I understood you to say.—A. That whatever effect is produced by waste or extravagance in the capture of the fish is itself so trifling, in proportion to the natural wear and tear of the fish, that it may be thrown entirely out of account. The report of the British Fishery Commission is very satisfactory on that point.

Q. The only reason why I asked the question was that you seemed to think this company would succeed in reducing the number of predaceous fish.—A. Well, those are large and take a long time to get their growth. You can imagine a limit to the abundance of certain fish like the shark, though you cannot to the other fish, such as the cod and the mackerel.

Q. You are United States Commissioner. Are you clothed with authority respecting the several States of the Union?—A. No.

Q. Well, have you any authority?—A. I have none, except that they are all perfectly willing to have me spend all the money I will in their

ports, and that they are willing to have me put as many shad, salmon, and cod, and useful food-fishes as I think I can spare in their waters.

Q. Have the United States collectively or the individual States the constitutional control over their fisheries; that is, their inshore fisheries?—A. The river fisheries are under the control of the several States, and the question of the jurisdiction of the sea fisheries has not yet been settled. For the present it lies in the States. The general government has exercised no control or authority on the inshore fisheries.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Referring to your hypothesis about the waters of the world being supplied with one kind of fish as another leaves, what have you to say in regard to the whale fishery; what is going to supply that?—A. Well, a fishery diminishes to a certain extent until it does not pay, and then is abandoned. After being let alone it increases and again becomes a profitable enterprise.

Q. Have any of the species of fish that were used in ancient times disappeared? They used fish in ancient times just as much as they do now. Do you know of any tribe having actually disappeared?—A. The only kind of fish that has gone entirely out, so far as I know, is a kind of mackerel that was formerly found, known as the chub-mackerel or big-eye mackerel. It was formerly well known. Thirty years ago it was extremely common, a steady measurable article of the fish supply. I have been in search of specimens ever since I have been in my present line of inquiry, and have a standing offer of \$25 for a specimen, but it has not been produced. There are many instances of the local abandonment of extensive shores. For instance, herring was formerly abundant on the coast of Sweden.

Q. Do you refer to a distinct species of mackerel?—A. A totally distinct species. We had two species on our coast and now we have only one. I dare say there may be a few, but we don't find them as formerly.

No. 70.

HOWARD M. CHURCHILL, of Rustico, Prince Edward Island, a United States citizen, fish-merchant, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. How long have you lived at Rustico?—Answer. Nineteen years.

Q. Have you been there usually through the winter?—A. Most of the time. Some winters I have been in Boston, and some in Charlottetown.

Q. Most of the winters as well as summers you have been on the island?—A. Yes.

Q. What is your business?—A. Fishing.

Q. Explain how you carry it on?—A. Well, we engage men in the spring. I do differently from most of them, I expect; I hire them by the month.

Q. To do what?—A. To fish or to do anything else on shore, but the general thing is to fish.

Q. How many men do you hire?—A. The average is about 45.

Q. How do you hire them?—A. I hire them by the month, feed and find them and everything.

Q. Do you supply boats?—A. Yes.

Q. How many boats?—A. Eight.

Q. How many stages have you?—A. I only run one; I have others, but I only run one.

Q. Do you have a store also in connection with your business?—A. Yes.

Q. What do you pay these men as wages. You say they are employed by you?—A. The average wages are, I think, about \$22 or \$23 each.

Q. Do you find them?—A. Yes.

Q. For how many months in the year?—A. Very near four—three and a half.

Q. Then you have the total produce of their catch?—A. Yes.

Q. What do they catch?—A. Fish—mackerel principally.

Q. Now, you have a house at Rustico?—A. Yes.

Q. You live there with your family?—A. Yes.

Q. What are your facilities for observing where the vessels and boats fish off Rustico?—A. I can see. Of course we are not on a cape, but we can see a few miles around.

Q. Your place of business and home are in sight of the harbor, and the sea beyond it?—A. Yes.

Q. Now I would like you to tell the Commission where the boats fish for mackerel off Rustico; how far out they go and how close in?—A. It is all distances, of course. In the spring and summer months they always fish in closer.

Q. How near is "close in"?—A. From a mile to three miles. Later in the season they have to go out.

Q. How far?—A. As far as ten miles. The last month of this year they were out ten miles. The average is eight or seven. They go out so that you can't see the boats.

Q. What is the size of the boat?—A. Well, the boats are 27 to 30 feet keel.

Q. How does the size of the boats that are built for the last two or three years compare with those that were used previously?—A. They have built larger boats for the last two or three years. A few years ago they used small boats altogether, about 15 or 16 feet keel.

Q. Are they being made bigger to enable them to go farther out?—A. Yes. It is fall fish we depend upon mostly. The small boats don't like to go off for them.

Q. What do you mean by saying you depend mostly upon the fall fish?—A. Well, the mackerel go off in the fall. They don't keep as close in as they do in the spring and summer.

Q. Which part of the mackerel season is the most important, the earlier or the latter part?—A. The latter part, of course.

Q. Why?—A. Because the mackerel are larger and fatter later in the season. They are growing. The first mackerel are always poor. The last mackerel we expect to be fat.

Q. Has the mackerel season ended yet?—A. It is about ended; they are hauling in the boats now.

Q. When did it begin?—A. The 10th of July.

Q. For boat-fishing, has this been a good year?—A. Yes; it has been a fair, pretty good year.

Q. What has been the quality?—A. The average has been poor.

Q. But the quantity?—A. The quantity has not been great, but the prices have been high. We haven't caught a great many.

Q. How was the year's business in 1867?—A. Poor, very poor.

Q. What was the result of last year's business? Did you make or lose?—A. We lost.

Q. How much?—A. Over \$3,000.

Q. Will you make it up this year?—A. I wish I could; I will not do any better; I would be satisfied with that.

Q. You have had an opportunity of observing, of course, where the United States vessels fish?—A. So far as there are any outside off Rustico.

Q. You know where the mackerel fishers fish off Rustico?—A. Yes.

Q. How far off do they go?—A. They are sometimes inside and sometimes outside. The last two or three years we haven't had any there to speak of. I think ten or a dozen is as high as I have seen within two or three years.

Q. Usually, principally or chiefly, do they fish within or more than three miles from land off Rustico?—A. It is very hard to say; I should say about three miles was where they fish. Sometimes you see the fleet outside, and the boats run out to see what they are doing. It is a part of the island they don't care about staying in close.

Q. Why, is there not a harbor?—A. There is no harbor; there is a harbor, but it is not fit for a vessel. A vessel can't come into Rustico.

Q. Why not?—A. There is no water; it is a barred harbor.

Q. What is the depth of water over the bar?—A. Eight feet of water.

Q. With what tide?—A. With a good tide.

Q. Do you know about how far it is from the land off Rustico to a straight line run from Cape North to East Point? Suppose you drew a straight line from Cape North to East Point, how long would the line be from Rustico to meet that straight line at right angles?—A. I don't know any more than I have heard. I have heard it stated as high as 27 miles. It is over 20. I never measured. I don't know anything about it any more than I have heard.

Q. You were on the island during the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. Yes.

Q. You were there at the time when there was a duty on mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. You were there when the Washington Treaty passed, and have been since?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, I want to know what you regard the effect of the fishery clauses of the Washington Treaty to be upon the fishing interest of Prince Edward Island?—A. Well, so far as that is concerned, we would rather put our fish in free than pay \$2 a barrel; that is all.

Q. You know how you regard it; I want your opinion.—A. Well, that is all; of course I look at the money; not anything else. We would rather not pay \$2 than pay it.

Q. Did you have to pay it when there was a duty on it?—A. Yes.

Q. Didn't it come out of the people you sold the fish to in the States?—A. If I hire men, I lose that.

Q. You are satisfied of that?—A. I am sure of it.

Q. Suppose the duty was to be reimposed on fish; what effect would it have on your business?—A. Well, I don't know. Of course I could not hire men to begin with. If I did, I would have to hire them at less wages. If I thought that really was to be the case I would not hire men at all.

Q. You would not hire men to fish for you at all?—A. No; I would let them take their own risk.

Q. What was the opinion of the people of Prince Edward Island, as far as you know?—A. When it was passed, of course it was against them.

Q. What was?—A. That is to pay the duty. Of course when we bought fish we had to figure the \$2 in. If fish were selling for \$5 in Boston, of course we had to take the \$2 out of that.

Q. Suppose the Washington Treaty hadn't passed, and you had gone along with the duty, how much longer would it have taken to use up the business of selling mackerel in the United States from the island?—A. I don't know; it is pretty hard to tell that. We are in business, and cannot wind it up in a day or a year, especially the way I was situated, because I have to supply my men ahead all the time. If the duty were to be \$2 or \$5 next year, I could not help it. They are supplied for next year. The men I have are, two-thirds of them, men with families, that live right in Rustico. I have to supply them all winter.

Q. They are always indebted to you?—A. Yes.

Q. You are satisfied you had to pay the duty when it was paid?—A. Certainly.

Q. Didn't you get it back?—A. Not I.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. You have been at Rustico before the Washington Treaty and carried on your business all the time the \$2 duty was paid, and have carried it on ever since?—A. Yes.

Q. Taking the last six years, have the fisheries largely increased in Prince Edward Island?—A. For the last six years? Well, I don't really think they have.

Q. What part of the island do you speak of when you say they haven't?—A. Just where I am.

Q. I don't mean your own business.—A. I mean in Rustico. I can't answer for anything else.

Q. Are not larger boats being built?—A. Yes.

Q. And more of them?—A. Yes.

Q. That is what I mean.—A. I thought you asked if the catch had been bigger.

Q. I mean that more people have gone into it?—A. Yes.

Q. And more money has been invested in it?—A. Yes.

Q. As to the catch, of course you can't tell what the catch was?—A. No.

Q. I want to show that the fisheries increased, and more money was invested and more people engaged, although a duty of \$2 a barrel was imposed.—A. At the time the duty was put on it was pretty blue.

Q. And for the two or three years the duty remained on, do you mean to say that more people didn't go into it?—A. I don't think it.

Q. Since then there have?—A. I think so.

Q. You don't know what the increase was then, or whether there was any?—A. No.

Q. Would you say there was none? Could you state that?—A. No; I could not.

Q. You have a strong interest in this \$2 duty, haven't you?—A. I have.

Q. Have you a large claim, about five or six thousand dollars?—A. About half of that.

Q. I have the statement here from the petition in relation to that. It is \$4,999 marked against you.—A. I am glad it is so much; I thought it was about \$3,000.

Q. When you applied to get the duty refunded, you felt that you should get it back?—A. Yes.

Q. Of course you naturally felt that that should be paid to you?—A. Yes.

Q. Now didn't you buy fish as well as catch them?—A. Yes.

Q. Didn't you buy them with the knowledge that the duty would be refunded?—A. Yes.

Q. And you paid \$2 more than you otherwise would have done?—A. Yes. I didn't buy many.

Q. I refer to what you did buy.—A. Yes.

Q. Have you thought over this question of the duty, whether the consumer pays it?—A. I gave it up long ago.

Q. Who do you think paid the duty on the potatoes we shipped last year from the island?—A. It is no use to ask me that.

Q. Who do you think?—A. Potatoes are one thing and fish another.

Q. I want to see if the same principle does not govern both.—A. It is merely guess-work, anything I should say.

Q. We got a price large enough to pay the duty?—A. Potatoes are different. There are a large fleet of American fishermen catching mackerel. What fish we catch is like a drop in the bucket there.

Q. Have you studied the statistics upon that point to see?—A. That is my idea.

Q. Do you know what proportion of the whole quantity consumed by the people of the United States comes from this country?—A. I don't know anything about it.

Q. Then when you say it is a mere drop in the bucket you are speaking at random?—A. I know it. I know there are 600 or 800 sail of vessels. All I know is that when I send mackerel to the Boston market, it is what the American fleet gets that governs our prices.

Q. You are getting high prices this year?—A. Yes.

Q. Has the failure of the American fleet anything to do with that?—A. Yes.

Q. When the price goes up beyond a certain point, who pays the duty then?—A. Well, that is what I think. If the American fleet catches a great many mackerel, we get a small price.

Q. I think you stated with reference to the vessel-fishing that it is about three miles off they fish, and that they fish inside and outside?—A. Yes.

Q. That is what I supposed. Now, on the boat-fishing we are, I think, a little at variance, that is, you and the witnesses I have called. You know Ross?—A. Yes.

Q. He does business alongside of you?—A. Yes; he is a good square man.

Q. A man of thorough integrity?—A. He is an honest man.

Q. A man you would believe?—A. Yes; a first class-man.

Q. Now, there is another point I want to refer to in this connection. You don't go in boats yourself?—A. No; I have never been out all summer.

Q. So that men who actually do go would have a better knowledge of the particular locality where the fishing was done than you could?—A. Yes; but I know where the boats are better than they do themselves.

Q. How do you know that?—A. Because I am awake and they are asleep half the time. Each one of them may know where he is himself, but I know where the whole of them are.

Q. And you think they don't know?—A. Each boat may know for himself, but I can see better than they can.

Q. You mean that, looking from the shore, you are apt to form a different opinion from those in the boats?—A. Yes.

Q. Don't you think that the man who goes out would have a better opinion than the man on shore?—A. Not as to where they lie.

Q. Ross gives his opinion that nine-tenths of the mackerel caught by the boat fishermen are taken within three miles?—A. I don't think it.

Q. Alexander McNeil, who is he?—A. He is a good man.

Q. He is a justice of the peace?—A. Yes.

Q. Of good standing and integrity?—A. First class.

Q. Well, he has been fishing a good many years. He is a farmer and fisherman?—A. Yes.

Q. He has been actively engaged since 1851, and he says the fish caught by the boats are taken (see statement in evidence).—A. That is at Cavendish.

Q. That would be correct there?—A. He has a boat that is not longer than this table. They have nothing but dories and skiffs. They haul their boats on the beach on the rocks. We could not do that with our boats. We have different boats altogether. Those Cavendish men come down to Rustico and fish in our boats.

Q. Then he does catch fish in that close?—A. Yes; I have no doubt his statements are true as to Cavendish. It is bolder water, to begin with.

Q. How far from Rustico is it?—A. Two or three miles.

Q. William J. McNeill, the member—you know him?—A. Yes.

Q. He is a respectable man?—A. He is a good man.

Q. He is of the same opinion. Now, I will take the months of July and August—do you think the fishing is done within three miles in those months?—A. I do.

Q. Well within?—A. Yes.

Q. Then, in the fall, the boats go out more?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it not the fact that they catch both inside and outside during the fall?—A. Certainly.

Q. Part is taken inside and part outside?—A. Yes.

Q. You don't know the proportion?—A. No; but generally they go out. They expect to go out in the fall.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. About the middle of September, for instance; is that a time when they go out or in?—A. They go off then—off shore.

Q. Do they fish inside much about that time?—A. Not much. The years are different; but they are always prepared to go outside.

No. 71.

ISAAC C. HALL, of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, and Winthrop, Mass., fish merchant, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster:

Question. You are a citizen of the United States?—Answer. Yes.

Q. You have a house in Charlottetown?—A. A commercial house; yes.

Q. And you live part of the year at Charlottetown and part of the year at Winthrop, Mass., near Boston, Suffolk County?—A. Yes.

Q. How old are you?—A. Fifty-seven.

Q. How many years have you been engaged in the fishing business on Prince Edward Island?—A. This is the twentieth year. It will be 20 years next spring.

Q. Since the spring of 1858 what portion of each season have you spent on Prince Edward Island?—A. I should think about 9 months in the year.

Q. Have you been there through the winter so far?—A. I have spent six years there pretty nearly all the time—part of the winter.

Q. Where did you reside the first year on the island?—A. Cascumpeque, or rather Alberton, Cascumpeque Harbor.

Q. Since then you have resided at Charlottetown?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, you have been in the fishing business, how have you prosecuted it?—A. I have been engaged, owning and fitting out vessels, and boat-fishing, and I have been purchasing mackerel from the first.

Q. Have you had any stages anywhere?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. You mean the firm?

Q. I don't want to ask you as to those that have been in charge of your partner, but how many have you had charge of yourself?—A. I have had charge of three. One at Rustico.

Q. How long have you had that?—A. Seven years.

Q. What others?—A. One on Grand River, near Georgetown, about ten miles east of it, on the south side of the island, and another at Cape George, Nova Scotia.

Q. When you began to do business on Prince Edward Island, it was about three years after the Reciprocity Treaty went into effect. Was there much fishing done then by the inhabitants?—A. There was very little. It was in its infancy.

Q. Did they know how to take care of the fish they caught, to cure them for market?—A. No; it was sufficient to condemn fish in the Boston market, so far as bringing good prices was concerned, that they came from Prince Edward Island. That was the case previous to 1858.

Q. Do you know how many barrels of mackerel were sent this year from yourself and your partner to Boston?—A. I don't know that I can give it exactly. I may approximate it. Only part of the catch has been shipped.

Q. Do you know what the catch has been of yourself and your partner up to the present time—whether it is still in hand or going forward?—A. Do you wish to ask what quantity I am shipping or what is the extent of the catch?

Q. What number of barrels of mackerel do your firm take, in the first place, and then what do they buy?—A. The shipment will probably amount this year to something like 7,000 or 8,000 barrels.

Q. How much last year?—A. Can I refer to memoranda?

Q. Certainly.—A. Our whole receipts last year were 4,534 barrels in Boston; about 300 were sent to Halifax; in all, 4,834 barrels.

Q. How much opportunity have you had to observe where the mackerel-boats fish off Prince Edward Island, and where the mackerel-vessels fish?—A. My observations this summer. I have been at Rustico a great part of the time, and I have had a chance to observe the places where they fish, and have taken some notice, more than I have heretofore. I have been buying fish since I went on the island, more or less, and have a general idea, but nothing very accurate. In regard to boat-fishing in Rustico, they fish in the early part of the season quite near the shore, from one and a half to two and a half miles, and later in the season, when the fish begin to move south, they have to go wide out for them.

Q. What do you mean by "wide out"?—A. From four to eight miles.

Q. Take last month, run back to the middle of September or the first week in September; within what distance from the shore were they fishing?—A. We have been fishing wide out. We have caught no fish within four or five miles.

Q. You sent Mr. Davies some mackerel the other day; how far out were those caught?—A. I answered that question before.

Q. What has the quality of mackerel been this year at the island?—

A. We have had some very fine fish—a few, but the majority have been poor, very similar to 1874, when we got such a large catch.

Q. The boat catch has been how good this year?—A. It has been good—more than an average.

Q. But the average quality has been poor?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that usually the case when the boat catch has been large?—A. Well, we never get a large catch with boats unless they are poor; that is a very large catch I am speaking of now. A very large catch involves small and poor fish. The average quality of the catch has not been good this year, although the quantity has been large. I have at Rustico ten boats, and we have taken 1,250 barrels, that is, 125 to a boat. That is an average. Some of them have got 150, and some down to 100. I think the first shipment amounted to 708 barrels. Over 650 of them were poor—number 3. I call all fish that will go to number 2 fat.

Q. You have a table?—A. I have a table of the percentage of fat and poor mackerel from 1868 down to 1876. Shall I read it?

Q. If you please.—A. This is a table of the whole quantity that our firm received:

Statement of mackerel received by Hall, Myrick & Co., Boston, 1868 to 1876, inclusive.

Year.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	Total.	Percentage, fat.	Percentage, poor.	Percentage, No. 1.
1868	6,639	1,320 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,282	8,188	97	3	79
1869	2,314 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,657 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,047	8,019	75	25	29
1870	2,885	3,770	779 $\frac{1}{2}$	7,434 $\frac{1}{2}$	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	38
1871	756 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,635 $\frac{1}{2}$	8,898 $\frac{1}{2}$	14,290 $\frac{1}{2}$	38	62	5
1872	2,029 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,655	1,861	6,545 $\frac{1}{2}$	71	29	31
1873	2,286	2,052	1,474 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,812 $\frac{1}{2}$	75	25	39
1874	3,439 $\frac{1}{2}$	7,841	6,710	17,990 $\frac{1}{2}$	63	37	19
1875	1,590	4,436 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,129	10,155 $\frac{1}{2}$	59	41	16
1876	1,827 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,506 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,200	4,534	73	27	40

Q. That table brings you to this year? Now, what proportion of those were taken in boats and what proportion in vessels?—A. It is pretty hard to make an estimate without going to the books. I haven't prepared myself for it.

Q. You can explain how many vessels you have.—A. The greatest number we fitted out was in 1871, when I had 8 vessels.

Q. How many have you had since that?—A. I don't think I have had over two since then.

Q. You can tell in round numbers whether three-fourths or seven-eighths is about the vessels' catch?—A. Taking the whole time together there may have been one-eighth vessel catch.

Q. But, of late years, since 1871, would more than seven-eighths be boat catch?—A. Yes, sir; nearly all. There have only been a few vessels out since then.

Q. Have you been inspector of mackerel on the island?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You inspect your own mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. When your mackerel goes to Boston is it required to be inspected?—A. No.

Q. It is repacked and reinspected?—A. To some extent the people who buy it put it in smaller packages to suit their own convenience.

Q. But it is not necessarily reinspected?—A. No.

Q. And unless it is reinspected in that way your mackerel would not go into the Massachusetts inspection figures?—A. No, they don't put foreign mackerel into their report.

Q. Now, I have asked you where the boats have fished; I want to ask you so far as your observation extends whether the vessels fish in the same places as the boats or further out?—A. I think the vessels fish more off shore than the boats do.

Q. Have you made any observations this year, or looked to see where the vessels were fishing?—A. I have been watching the vessels since I have been at Rustico this summer.

Q. You told me of some instances in which you made a count?—A. That was at Cape George. I was there, and from the house I counted with the glass some 31 vessels fishing.

Q. How far off were they?—A. Well, most of them were wide out. I counted three, I think, that were as I considered inside of the three-mile limit.

Q. Now, I see there is a Mr. Curry, a gentleman, on your island, I believe, is not he?—A. Yes.

Q. He reports you as having estimated the catch of mackerel in the bay as being one-third inside of three miles and two-thirds outside. Did you give any such estimate and under what circumstances; and does that correspond with your present belief?—A. I recollect Mr. Curry coming in and asking me about the fishing in the bay, and I gave him my best judgment.

Q. When was that?—A. Several years ago, I think. My attention has been called to it here. It was 1873, I think. I cannot recollect exactly.

Q. What do you say about that?—A. I gave him my opinion to the best of my judgment as I thought at that time. My opinion in regard to distance is not of course equal to that of men who have been on the sea all their lives catching mackerel. I have merely been around the shores and conversed with the captains who have been fishing for me.

Q. Where do your captains belong?—A. To the island, most of them.

Q. What do you now say as to the distance that the vessels fish from the shore off the bend of the island? Do they fish in where the boats do or further off?—A. They are sometimes in where the boats are, but generally further out.

Q. Is the boat fishing and vessel fishing the same kind?—A. No.

Q. Explain the difference.—A. The boat goes from the shore and brings the fish to the stage, and has them dressed on shore, as a general thing. Some boats go out and stay three or four days from the north part of the island. My boats make two trips a day in the summer, and in the fall they make one trip, the men taking their dinners with them. The fish are all brought ashore and dressed ashore, and my boats all fish on the half line or quarter line.

Q. Now, can the vessels with a crew of 12 or 14 or 16 men get a profitable catch of mackerel if they fish in where your boats do that make two trips a day? What do you say about that?—A. I don't know that my opinion would be worth anything on that point. I never had any experience in the matter. There are some years I think they would. Other years they would not.

Q. As a matter of observation, do they usually fish as far in as the boats do?—A. They don't. They fish further out.

Q. If you were to estimate again as to the proportion of mackerel caught within three miles of the shore by the vessels, would you consider two-thirds a large or small estimate?—A. If I was to estimate by conversation with the men I have seen here from the States, I should consider that a very large estimate. If I took my estimate from those who have been fishing for me, and have been giving testimony before

you here, I should say it was a very small one. I don't think my opinion would be worth much.

Q. You were in business on the island at the time the Reciprocity Treaty ended?—A. I was.

Q. What was the effect of the abrogation of the treaty upon your business?—A. The treaty was abrogated, I think, in 1866. We had to pay duties on mackerel from 1866 down to 1870. From 1866 to 1868 we had a very superior quality of fish, as you will see by the estimate I have given you here. The prices were high, and we got good fish, and were enabled to do very well until the close of the year 1870 or the beginning of 1871, when the market completely broke down and we lost everything, you may say. It was in 1870 that the raid was made on us there from the Dominion Government, and that, coupled with the fall of the mackerel, was a very heavy loss to us. Then, in 1870 we had a very large catch of mackerel, but of poor quality, and, having to pay duties, our mackerel netted us very little. I have an estimate of the exact amount of what they netted us that year. The net sales of No. 1 were \$7.31 in 1871; No. 2, \$4.81; and No. 3, which is the largest portion, \$3.44. The average for the year was \$4.09, at which we sold 14,239 barrels.

Q. What caused that fall?—A. There was a very large catch in 1870 on the American coast, and the market completely broke down at the close of the season.

Q. They had a pretty large catch the year preceding and a good deal was carried over?—A. Yes. A large part of the catch of 1870 was consumed before our fish came in in 1871. Our prices fell from \$23 or \$24 a barrel down to \$7. We had very heavy stocks and it completely crushed us.

Q. What part did you take in getting the fishery clause of the Washington Treaty enacted?—A. Well, I had a very large interest in it. Of course, I went on at the time the resolutions were being got up from the city of Boston recommending that the bill should pass. I wanted free fish and free fishing.

Q. You met your Gloucester friends taking the other view?—A. I met Mr. Procter, who was one of the delegates from Gloucester, with others. He had charge of them and seemed to be the leading man. There was a gentleman from Cape Cod. I labored with him a good deal, and tried to have my view accepted.

Q. You finally beat him?—A. Well, I would not say I beat them, but my plan was successful.

Q. What was the opinion of the people of Prince Edward Island as to the effect upon their fishing interests of the clauses of the Washington Treaty?—A. I have never seen any one that was interested in the fishery, either actually engaged or otherwise, but what, so far as the fishing interest was concerned, looked upon it as a great boon, worth anything to the fishing business.

Q. After the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, and before the fishing clauses of the Washington Treaty took effect, were you able to add the duty of \$2 a barrel, or any part of it, to your fish, or did it come out of you as a fish-seller?—A. I always supposed, and still believe, we had to take it out of the fish. There was pretty good evidence of that in 1871; when it came out there was not much left.

Q. If the duty were reimposed upon mackerel going from the island to the United States, what effect would it have on your business?—A. It would have a very disastrous effect. We could not carry it on with the ordinary price to make it a success.

Q. Explain that matter. Explain your views to the Commission.—A.

Well, whenever there is a large catch of mackerel on the American shores, a thing which happens once in six or seven years, the prices go down invariably. In 1870, owing to the large quantity of mackerel caught on the United States shores, the prices went down.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. At what time of the year did the break in the prices take place?—A. It commenced about the December of 1870. We had to meet that disaster, and the consequence was that in 1871 we had to sell our mackerel at one-half of what it cost. In 1874 they had a great catch there, but this was after we had free trade, of course. We had to meet a very low price, and not having the duty to pay, we sustained ourselves and made a decent thing of it. We caught a large quantity of fish. The largest quantity ever caught was that year.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. I think you are wrong about that year.—A. The catch on the American coast was in 1870, the great catch. But they also had a pretty large catch the following year, and we had a large catch also. It follows almost invariably that whenever they have a very large catch on the American shore we get a large part of those same fish the next year. It followed in the same way. Now, in 1874 they had a pretty large catch, and we had a very large catch. There was not as many mackerel in the gulf, but they were all inshore, and we made the largest catch ever made. In 1876, last year, our catch was very small. It was the poorest year we ever had. We had not only a poor catch, but poor prices, as we had to contend with a great catch on the American shore. We had a small catch and they had a large catch, and the result was that prices were very low, and of course it was a very disastrous year for Prince Edward Island—as much so as any previous to 1871.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. Now, how large a quantity of high-priced mackerel, say, No. 1's, will the United States market take in a year?—A. I can tell how many No. 1's.

Q. Take it at \$20 a barrel, how many barrels would the United States market ordinarily take?—A. It is now very unlike what it was ten years ago; that is, the market for mackerel. Then we had a winter trade, now we have none. The fact is no business man has now any faith in a winter market.

Q. What becomes of the people who hold mackerel over usually?—A. It is a losing business. It has been losing for several years. Formerly it was not so.

Q. You say the market is very different; what has caused the difference?—A. I have no doubt in my own mind it is the very large introduction of fresh fish into the country, caught through the winter, and the great production of the western lakes. That is the principal thing.

Q. But of the fact there is, no doubt, that is, of the limitation of the mackerel market?—A. No doubt. It was easier to sell 200,000 ten years ago than 100,000 to-day.

Q. Now, you take No. 3 mackerel, what would be the effect of a duty of \$2 a barrel in the United States market?—A. We could not catch them and ship them there ordinarily unless there was a great scarcity there, as happens this season.

Q. Practically what would become of your business of catching mackerel if the duty of \$2 a barrel were reimposed?—A. Well, when a man runs his head against a post he must get around the best way he can.

Q. You are satisfied you could not add the duty to the price of the mackerel in the United States market?—A. No, it can't be done.

Q. How low must mackerel be to have a large quantity taken in the American market? At what price does the willingness to purchase begin to decidedly fall?—A. When No. 3 go up over \$8 a barrel, and No. 2 over \$10, and No. 1 over \$14, the market begins to drop. The consumption falls off very much indeed.

Q. Now, you didn't answer how many barrels of mess mackerel, or very fine No. 1's, could be disposed of at \$20 a barrel?—A. Well, mess mackerel is a very small percentage, not more than 3 per cent. of the mackerel consumed. Looking at the papers to-day, I see we received, from 1868 to 1876, of mess mackerel, including No. 1 and No. 2 mess mackerel, we received in nine years 3,097 barrels in a total receipt of mackerel of 145,980.

Q. Can you sell this mackerel in Canada? Is there any Canadian market?—A. No. I went through Canada and went through all the cities and large places, and spent a long time one winter.

Q. How far west did you go?—A. As far as Toronto. I sold a few half barrels and kits altogether, a dozen to some parties. I thought we could introduce them and I shipped them one or two different lots. They sold a few, a very few, and I finally reshipped them to Detroit and closed them up. The people didn't know much about them, and didn't care much about them.

Q. The boat fisheries of Prince Edward Island have increased and flourished very much for the last few years?—A. Yes, very much. They have good reasons for it.

Q. What reasons?—A. A better class of fishermen. When we first started business we had, of course, to work with green hands. Like every other business, it has to be learned, and men have to be prepared for it. Then when the duties were put on, the best fishermen left us and went aboard American vessels. They could ship from the island or go to Gloucester and get good vessels and have their fish go into the United States and sell for their whole value. We had no other market, and had inferior men. Now, since we have a free market, these men have been coming back. The character of the men and their ability to fish has increased very much. So much so that I honestly think you can calculate the catch of the same number of men now at 25 to 33 per cent. more than it was formerly.

Q. To what do you attribute this greater supply of boat fishermen and better quality?—A. These men find they can fish here. This is their home in many cases. A great many get boats and find they can do very well here now fishing, and they stock at home and fish from the shore.

Q. Now, if the island were cut off from the United States market, what would become of the fishermen?—A. Well, these fishermen would probably go back to their old business. I would not want to fish if I had to pay the duty on mackerel.

Q. Your codfish don't go much to the United States market, at present?—A. No. Very little.

Q. You cure them for the West Indies?—A. The small fish are cured for the West India market, and the large fish are either consumed at home or sent to Halifax.

Q. If you were going to pursue the vessel mackerel-fishing from Prince Edward Island would you require pogies as a necessary bait?—A. We never think of sending a vessel without pogies.

Q. How is it that your boats get along with herring and make fair

catches when the vessels can't?—A. Well, it has been somewhat of a mystery to us all, but we make it work.

Q. What is the difference between boat and vessel fishing?—A. Well, the boat goes off and comes to anchor and springs up, and they commence to throw the bait over.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Springing up means coming broadside to the tide?—A. Yes. They throw the bait and the tide takes it away, and they keep feeding it out and gathering the fish around them all day; and although they may not have a large quantity of fish they make a decent business of it. Whereas a vessel can't do the same thing. They heave to most of the time and drift.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. If you were going to pursue vessel-fishing would you make any use of seines?—A. The seines don't seem to be as favorable with us as they were.

Q. Have seines been made successful in the gulf?—A. I have had two mackerel seiners there. One wore out, and the other half wore out and I sold it.

Q. To what do you attribute the fact that seining in the gulf does not seem to be a success?—A. To the shoal water and rough bottom.

Q. What do you say about making a shoal seine?—A. My seine was a shoal seine, made expressly for the bottom. Three times out of four you get foul of rocks and a hole is made, and away goes the mackerel.

Q. Suppose the three-mile limit were distinctly marked out by a line of buoys so that anybody could see it, and there was no danger of making a mistake as to it, would the right of fishing within three miles of the shore be worth to the United States vessels three dollars a ton?—A. Well, I don't think many would take it. There are very few vessels coming here now when they have free access to the shores. If they had to pay a dollar a ton I think it would be very seldom they would come. There might be times when it would be different, because they know by telegraph when there is a good run of mackerel, and when the gulf is full they might come down, but ordinarily they would not.

Q. To what do you attribute the apparently great importance of this three-mile concession?—A. I think the great importance of it is this: that when sometimes a man sends a vessel down here it is a valuable property, and they have to trust it to their captains. A mistake in regard to the line might involve them in any amount of trouble. Any captain of a vessel if he was four or five miles out would make out to sea if he was fishing and a cruiser came along, and it was unsafe to go even within that distance of shore, because you could not tell certainly as to the distance. No man can tell unless he has instruments. He may be 25 or 50 per cent. out of the way.

Q. Whether by mistake of the skipper, or by mistake of the cruiser, whether intentionally or unintentionally, if a man's vessel is seized what is the effect?—A. It does not make a great deal of difference whether he is guilty or not. It amounts pretty much to the same thing, so far as my experience goes. The business is broken up and the men thrown out of employment for the season. Everything is gone, and the vessel is laid up six months, eaten up by the worms. You might get your vessel back, but you would not get 60 per cent. of the value of her on the voyage.

Q. How much do you pay for mackerel to your fishermen?—A. Do

you mean my boats? I pay \$1.50 a hundred for their portion of the fish, delivered on the stage. We dress them and do all the work.

Q. Let us have the biggest and lowest price you pay them.—A. I have paid within three or four years \$2.00 to \$1.25. \$1.50 is the average.

Q. You say that is for their part of the fish. What do you mean?—A. I find them the boat, lines, bait, provisions, and everything that belongs to the fishing. They have no expense. They catch their fare and bring them into the harbor and we take account of them. We allow him \$1.50 a hundred for half the fish. The other half is ours. You wanted to know how many we take for the barrel.

Q. I didn't come to that. Have you a copy of the agreement?—A. (Produces and reads agreement.)

Q. That is before it is cured?—A. That is for fresh fish landed on the stage.

Q. Now, being paid at that rate, how much can a man earn in a month?—A. In a good season he will earn from \$20 to \$25; in a poor season from \$12 to \$15.

Q. I don't think I asked you about the size of the boats. If there are boats of different sizes that fish in different ways, I would like you to tell?—A. We have large boats, with five men to a boat.

Q. How long are those?—A. From 22 to 25 feet keel.

Q. How long do they stay out? Do they stay over night?—A. Not my boats. The men all sleep ashore.

Q. What is the size of the smaller boats?—A. A great many little boats fish all round the island; some quite small, perhaps 12 or 15 feet keel.

Q. Are some owned by farmer fishermen?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you buy fish from them?—A. Yes. A great many of them ship their own fish.

Q. Through you?—A. Yes, sometimes.

Q. And get the benefit of the market?—A. Yes.

Q. That is getting general. Is that a branch of industry that has been built up since the fishery clauses of the treaty went into effect?—A. It has been very much built up within the last few years. It has been done by dozens of men that formerly sold us their fish.

Q. You have given us a description of what is called half-line fishing; what is quarter-line fishing?—A. That is where the fisherman receives a specified sum per month, and gives the owner one-fourth of the fish for that sum; the owner thus receiving three-fourths of his catch.

Q. You find them in food?—A. Yes, everything. They have no expense, except for their own clothing.

Q. Do you mean that you board them for the month?—A. We find a building for them, and have a cook-house. They sleep, eat, and everything. They have no expense.

Q. Have you examined the Prince Edward Island statistics at my request?—A. I have.

Q. Have you read the testimony of your partner, Mr. Myrick, as to them?—A. I did.

Q. You know what he testified?—A. Yes.

Q. How does your judgment correspond with his in reference to the correctness or incorrectness of those island statistics?—A. I think he is very nearly correct.

Q. Are there any particulars in which you would correct his statement?—A. Well, I might if I had the details, but as a general thing I would not.

Q. Well, there is one particular in which, probably by an error either of the reporter or of the printer, there is a considerable difference between his statement and the one you gave me; what is that?—A. That is in regard to hake-fishing. It was placed on the list at \$3.50 a quintal. That was a mistake of a dollar.

Q. Did you call his attention to that?—A. He said it was a mistake. He gave it, \$2.50.

Q. Are there any hake sounds exported from the island?—A. Yes.

Q. There are no hake sounds down in the book?—A. They have got down cod sounds. There are 594 barrels of cod tongues and sounds down. He said he had no such thing.

Q. You say that is not correct?—A. Certainly not. I think it is intended for hake sounds.

Q. Are there that many hake sounds?—A. I don't think there is such a large amount.

Q. What become of the cod sounds?—A. They are thrown away with the offal of the fish. Our cod are mostly small. I never saw a barrel of cod sounds saved on the island.

Q. At what do you estimate the exportation of mackerel for 1876 from the island?—A. Not exceeding 12,000 barrels.

Q. Would there be consumed on the island as much more of mackerel?—A. We do not eat mackerel on the island.

Q. In regard to fresh fish: have you much of a market for fresh fish there?—A. We have a market in Charlottetown; we sell fifty barrels a year there.

Q. Has anybody else a market there?—A. No; farmers come in on market days and sell fish.

Q. How many inhabitants has Charlottetown?—A. About 9,000.

Q. And the only place where fish is sold, except from wagons on market days, disposes of fifty barrels a year. Farmers catch it for their own use, I suppose?—A. I think they do; they are not a mackerel-eating people. I do not sell on an average, in Charlottetown, five barrels of cured mackerel a year.

Q. Any estimate placing the production of salted mackerel at 20,000 for last year, you think, is absurdly erroneous?—A. It is erroneous; there is no question about it.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. How do you arrive at the quantity exported from the island; you have to make a guess at it?—A. We cannot get the exact amount because we have no statistics we can depend on; we have our exports to go by; so far as they go they are correct, but they do not cover the whole quantity; there is only 9,000 reported as exported.

Q. You think that is not a correct statement, and that it exceeds that amount?—A. I think there are about 2,000 barrels more exported.

Q. That is to say, you are guessing at the amount?—A. I cannot give the exact amount, but I can approximate very nearly to it; I know what we receive and what our neighbors receive; I know every man who does any mackerel business on the island, and as I know about the number of barrels they ship, I can get at it very nearly.

Q. You never set to work to make up such a statement?—A. Not to get it exactly to a barrel.

Q. You never attempted to do so?—A. I never attempted it.

Q. As to the quantity of mackerel consumed on the island: you never made any inquiry, I suppose, in the fishing districts to ascertain what quantity of No. 3's the people consumed, or whether it is not the habit

of the people to keep some portion of the mackerel for their own consumption?—A. I know something about that because I am familiar with the fishermen on all parts of the island, and also the farmers.

Q. Fishermen and farmers?—A. They use large quantities of herring and a considerable quantity of codfish in all parts of the island. I have often heard them say they would rather have a barrel of herring than a barrel of mackerel.

Q. No doubt because herring is cheaper?—A. They are accustomed to eat herring, and not accustomed to mackerel.

Q. You would not put your statement against that of a person who had gone round and made an examination among the farmers and fishermen as to the quantity consumed?—A. If he went round among the people and farmers to inquire as to the quantity, I would not; but my general information would give me the idea that they do not consume many mackerel.

Q. But not having made any inquiry for the purpose, you would not place your estimate as against that of a man who had made an inquiry as to the quantity consumed?—A. I don't believe any man could make out what the quantity is.

Q. You have no doubt the sounds spoken of in the statistics are hake sounds? We do not classify any sounds as hake sounds in the statistics of the island?—A. I think so, though the price is entered as per barrel, and hake sounds are sold by the pound, being a very valuable article. There cannot be any doubt but that is a mistake.

Q. When they put down cod sounds they meant hake sounds?—A. I don't know what they meant.

Q. Would you say they were cod sounds?—A. No; but the price should not have been put in by the barrel. Hake sounds are worth fifty cents, sometimes \$1 per pound.

Q. Is the value stated correctly, or is it an undervaluation?—A. If they are cod sounds, it is a high value; if hake sounds, it is a very small part of their value.

Q. You have already told the Commission that it is within your knowledge they are not cod sounds, and I accept your statement as correct.—A. Yes.

Q. If they are hake sounds they are undervalued?—A. Undervalued very much.

Q. You think that is a large number of barrels of hake sounds?—A. Rather large.

Q. They form a very valuable part of the fish, more valuable than the hake itself?—A. Far more valuable.

Q. I did not quite understand you with respect to people mistaking distances. Do you think it is easy for a man to mistake the distance he is from shore?—A. My experience is that when we are approaching the shore with a vessel we are very apt to think we are within perhaps half a mile of the shore when we are more than a mile away. It is very difficult to decide the distance you are from shore from a vessel's deck. That has been my experience, and I have heard a good many men express the same opinion.

Q. Is there not the same difficulty in looking out from the land?—A. Perhaps it would not be so difficult. Different phases of the ocean would give different appearances. More experienced men would know more about it.

Q. You are head of the fishing establishment of Hall & Myrick?—A. Yes.

Q. Your headquarters are at Charlottetown?—A. Yes.

Q. When you are on the island, do you not reside nine-tenths of your time in Charlottetown?—A. I spend a large portion of the time there; I don't know about nine-tenths. That is my headquarters.

Q. If I was to say you spend one day out of two weeks at Rustico, would I be wrong?—A. I spent this summer half my time there.

Q. But generally speaking?—A. I spend all the Sabbaths and about half the week there.

Q. Do you not generally live in Charlottetown when on the island?—A. I generally go to Rustico two or three times a week. I remain there but a short time.

Q. Your opportunities of observation in regard to the fishing there were limited compared with those of persons on the spot?—A. Of course.

Q. You would not pretend to give an opinion as to the distance the boats fished from the shore, as against the opinions of persons on the spot?—A. I have only been there one season, but I have been round the island for twenty years.

Q. Captain Chivirie is one of your captains?—A. Yes.

Q. And also Captain James McDonald?—A. Yes.

Q. Was their evidence put in your hands to read by Mr. Foster?—A. Yes.

Q. You read their statements?—A. Yes.

Q. James McDonald is now captain of the Lettie?—A. He is now.

Q. Is he out fishing this year?—A. Yes.

Q. Is he a good fisherman?—A. Yes, a good fisherman.

Q. He says:

That two-thirds of the fish caught in American and other schooners are caught within a mile and one-half from the shore; the best-fishing is generally close to the shore.

You would not be prepared to contradict his statement?—A. I have not the same opinion he has. From what I know from conversations with other men, and from my conversations with him in former times, I should not have such an opinion.

Q. I understood you to say, in answer to Mr. Foster, that your opinions had been modified by conversation with American witnesses since you came here?—A. Not so much here; partly here and partly at other places.

Q. I understood you to say that, since you came here and conversed with American witnesses, you had somewhat modified your opinion?—A. If I had formed my opinion from conversations with them, it would be that not more than one-eighth or one-tenth of the catch was taken inshore; if from conversations with the other side, it would be that two-thirds, three-quarters, or nearly all was so taken.

Q. Did you ever converse with witnesses from the island about it?—A. I have talked with them in various years oftentimes.

Q. You have no reason to doubt that James McDonald is a reliable man?—A. I have good reason to doubt.

Q. As to his veracity?—A. No; I would not doubt any man's veracity, but the correctness of his opinion.

Q. You merely doubt his estimate?—A. I doubt the estimate in regard to the American fleet.

Q. Not his integrity and veracity?—No.

Q. You spoke of seining; what was the depth of the seine with which you tried?—A. I had one of 10 fathoms deep, and another of 12 fathoms.

Q. You found they required to be so shallow in order to prosecute the fishing there?—A. Yes.

Q. Did McDonald use the seine in the Lettie?—A. No.

Q. Who used them, and on what part of the coast were they used?—A. The purse-seine I had with Captain Rogers, of Massachusetts. He fished along the coast, in the bend of the island, and back and forth round the island shores. Afterwards I had a seine with Captain Marshall.

Q. Did he fish round the island?—A. The year he caught fish he took them over at Gaspé Harbor.

Q. You say that in 1874 all the fish were taken inshore; I mean, of course, a very large part of them?—A. I said the fish were very near the shore in 1874, more so than I ever knew them.

Q. Some of the witnesses have stated that there has been a tendency of the fish to frequent the shores of late years. Have you noticed that the fish have been taken closer to the shore of late years than in 1855 or 1860?—A. I think the fish vary from year to year; I could not express a general opinion on that point. I believe the vessels of the island fish nearer the island than the American vessels, and follow our coast more closely; I believe that has led to the impression that the fishing is so much inshore.

Q. Were not Banks Bradley and Orphan formerly known as great fishing places?—A. They have not been able to take many fish anywhere during the last three years. The American fleet that has come down has been a small fleet, and they have taken very few.

Q. Are not most of the American vessels furnished with seines this year?—A. Pretty much all on the American coast.

Q. And here?—A. A good many, a large number.

Q. You have stated that seining has not been a success with us?—A. It has not been profitable either to American vessels or those fishing from the island.

Q. But most of the fleet have seines this year?—A. I could not give the proportion of the fleet which has come to the bay with seines. I counted ten vessels with seines.

Q. Would you say that one-half of the vessels in the gulf are furnished with seines?—A. Perhaps one-third.

Q. I believe you have a claim against the American Government for a refund of duties?—A. Yes.

Q. It remains there yet?—A. Yes.

Q. What is its amount?—A. \$30,700.

Q. You told Mr. Foster that if a duty was reimposed you would consider very seriously whether you would continue in the business?—A. Yes.

Q. You made that statement on the assumption that you paid the duty?—A. Yes.

Q. I think it has been explained very clearly that the price of fish depends almost altogether on the catch; this is the case to a large extent?—A. To a large extent; yes. If there is a large catch of mackerel prices rule low, and if there is a small catch they rule high.

Q. If the evidence given here on the part of British witnesses is correct, two-thirds of the fish taken by American vessels in the gulf, I may say, are caught inshore; and, assuming that two-thirds of their whole catch in the gulf is taken inside of the three-mile limit, could the American fleet, if they were excluded from fishing within this limit, prosecute the gulf fishery for the other third; would this pay them?—A. I think it would be a difficult business to do so, if that proportion is correct.

Q. Have you any difficulty at all in answering this question; could

they come to the bay to fish for one-third of their usual catch ?—A. I should not think that they could thus do a successful business ; it would be unsuccessful under such circumstances.

Q. You think it would not pay them then to come ?—A. Not if they caught two-thirds of their fish inside of and were excluded from the three-mile limit.

Q. Supposing that they catch that quantity within the limits, what would be the effect if they were excluded from this limit, and if, in consequence, two-thirds of the quantity which they caught were withdrawn from the market ?—A. That would depend upon the catch on the American shore.

Q. You gave one year, 1871, when a great catch was made on the American shore ?—A. Yes.

Q. Suppose that the catch on the American shore was not large, and that they were excluded from fishing within the limits in the gulf, where, we will assume, they get two-thirds of their fish, what would be the effect ?—A. If there was a large catch here they would feel it very much.

Q. Who ?—A. They would.

Q. Would the price then go up ?—A. If there was a large catch here, and no catch there, this would be the case.

Q. Would the price go up under the circumstances I have mentioned, if the catch on the American shore was not a large one. What would be the effect of this on the fish caught by the island fishermen and forwarded to the States ?—A. That would most likely enhance the price.

Q. So the question as to who pays the duty depends almost altogether on the catch, and whether the Americans are allowed to fish within the limits in the gulf ?—A. Yes ; the fact is that they take three-quarters of the catch, that is the trouble. Some years they have a large catch, and some years this is not the case.

Q. Take the average : you mean to say that, taking what the Americans catch in their vessels here and on their own coast, they take three-quarters of the catch ?—A. I mean to say that the inspection in the States shows that three-quarters of the fish are taken by American vessels.

Q. But you cannot state what proportion of this catch is taken in the Gulf of St. Lawrence ?—A. No ; no further than I hear, that this catch has been very small during the last three years.

Q. But how is it on the whole—no duty has been levied during the last three years ?—A. That does not make their catch any less. Of course, if there was good fishing in the gulf, and they had free access to the inshore fisheries, they would be more willing to come to the gulf than if licenses were required, or if they were excluded from these inshore fisheries.

Q. A number of American witnesses have told me that they desire duties put on our fish, because this would give them an enhanced price for their fish ; do you agree with that view ?—A. No.

Q. You think that all who state that opinion are in error ?—A. I think they are mistaken.

Q. You differ in opinion on this point from every one of them ?—A. I do. I think they are mistaken in supposing that the putting on of a duty would give them more a barrel for their fish. Taking it altogether, I think that this would not be the case.

Q. If you are correct in thinking that a duty would exclude our fish,

must it not necessarily enhance the price of their fish?—A. Not necessarily.

Q. What—if the supply is limited one-quarter, would not this have that effect?—A. If one-quarter of the supply was cut off, it would have some effect; but if there was a good catch on the American shore, this would not enhance the price \$2 a barrel.

Q. If the one-quarter thus lacking was made up, and the demand supplied, that would not be the case; but if one-quarter of the average supply was taken out of the market, do you not believe that this would necessarily enhance the price?—A. It might have some effect upon it, but it would not enhance the price \$2 a barrel.

Q. You think not?—A. No.

Q. Between what prices do mackerel vary in the market?—A. From \$5 to \$30 per barrel for the different qualities.

Q. What are the causes of these variations?—A. Partly the quality and partly the catch.

Q. The consumption remains on the average about the same?—A. No; it does not. It is not now what it was 5 or 10 years ago.

Q. Has it been about the same during the last 5 years?—A. It varies according to the price.

Q. What is the cause of the variation in prices?—A. The catch, in great measure.

Q. Suppose that one-quarter of the catch was withdrawn, would the price then go up?—A. This would depend upon the catch and quality.

Q. If the catch fell off one-quarter, would not the price inevitably go up?—A. It would have that effect, of course.

Q. Suppose that one-quarter of the catch on the American shore fell off, compared with the average, would not the price then go up?—A. It always goes up then.

Q. If the price goes up, who pays the enhanced price; is it not the consumer?—A. Yes.

Q. And if the catch is large the price goes down; so it would depend in some measure on whether the catch on the American or on our own shore was large, as to who would pay this duty?—A. Yes; and on the quality of the mackerel.

Q. All these elements would have to be considered?—A. Some, yes; there is no other market than the United States for mackerel, and of course we have no other market for these fish.

Q. I think you left the impression on some minds, at least, that the imposition of the duty caused your disasters?—A. Yes.

Q. Was there not another cause for them, which accounted in large measure for the failure of your catch that year—the effect consequent on your vessels being seized?—A. They were seized in 1870.

Q. Had not that a great deal to do with your difficulties?—A. Of course. I lost money by these seizures, and, my business being broken up, I was not able to trade in Charlottetown.

Q. Did not that materially contribute to your difficulties?—A. We would not have failed on that account. We were worth a large amount of property, and we could have stood a great many losses like that.

Q. But this was one of the causes that contributed, and contributed largely to it?—A. A small percentage of it was due to that.

Q. Do you know whether purse-seining has been looked on by fishermen generally as a failure or not?—A. I think that it is not looked

upon as a failure altogether. Different opinions are entertained in this regard.

Q. Some think it is a failure and some think it is not?—A. I think that going into this seining is generally looked upon as a mistake.

Q. Why?—A. It is looked upon as an instrument that may be disastrous to the fishing in the future. A great many fish are lost in this mode of seining. A great many fish are thus caught which cannot be taken out, and they are hence altogether lost. I do not think that this has occurred here, but it has occurred on the American coast.

Q. What do you say your shipments of mackerel will be this year—7,000 or 8,000 barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. What do you think the island shipments will amount to this year?—A. They will approximate between 20,000 and 25,000 barrels.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. You do not mean that this quantity has gone forward?—A. I mean the whole shipments. This is, however, a mere estimate.

Q. Mr. Davies has made the hypothesis that the United States vessels take two-thirds of their catch in the gulf within the limits, and he asked you what effect, under these circumstances, would their exclusion from these be, if they had a small catch on their own coast, and you say that this would tend to enhance the price, and of course it would. I would now like to know whether, on that hypothesis, prices would go up indefinitely, or whether there is a point where people would stop buying mackerel?—A. Mackerel will not be consumed in large quantities at high prices.

Q. What is the price at which they will stop buying, the quantity taken of mess mackerel, purchased as a luxury, excepted?—A. Large quantities of mackerel cannot be sold at prices over \$8 for number threes, at about \$10 and \$11 for number twos, and about \$12 or \$14 for number ones.

Q. Do vessels which come to the gulf with seines, also bring hooks and lines?—A. Yes; they do.

Q. Do you mean to say that no merchant can depend on mackerel continuing in demand at high prices?—A. No, he cannot. The business then falls off.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. We have heard of a vessel called the Lettie, which fished on the American coast, of which, I believe, you are proprietor?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you tell me where she fished on the American coast, and whether she was successful?—A. She fished there one year for pogies, and was very successful. She got all she could bring.

Q. Did she fish close to the shore or off shore?—A. I think that she fished pretty near the shore sometimes.

Q. That is the only Canadian vessel which you know of as having fished there?—A. I am not acquainted with any other that has done so.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. How much do you pay the fishermen per barrel on shore for their mackerel?—A. I have paid them \$1.50 per 100 fish.

Q. What is that per barrel?—A. \$3.75.

Q. How much salt do you use for a barrel of mackerel?—A. It will take about 5 pecks to use a barrel and pack it.

Q. What does the salt cost you?—A. 25 cents a bushel.

Q. When you speak of paying them \$3.75 a barrel, you mean all round—for ones, twos, and threes?—A. That would be for the average.

Q. What does the salt cost you?—A. About 31 cents per barrel.

Q. And what do the barrels cost?—A. On the average, perhaps 90 cents.

Q. What is the expense of pickling and packing, leaving out the cost of the barrel and salt?—A. It would be very hard to tell that.

Q. They put the price of packing altogether in Gloucester at \$2, and they say that from 25 to 50 cents profit is made on that?—A. In order to cure our fish, we have to put a large gang of men, perhaps from 12 to 15, on shore, to handle the fish, and we have to pay them wages.

Q. Would 30 cents per barrel suffice, besides the cost of the barrels and salt, to cure a barrel of mackerel?—A. No; that would not begin to do it. That would probably take not less than \$2 a barrel.

Q. In Gloucester they say they charge \$2 for packing?—A. That is merely for packing—a different thing entirely.

Q. That includes the barrel and salt?—A. I understand that; but that is a different thing entirely. These fish, which are packed in Gloucester, are already cured; they are merely packed, while our fish come in fresh, and we have to split, gut, and rim them, soak and salt them in hogsheads, and afterward, after they have lain long enough in the salt, we have to pack them up.

Q. What would you think that you pack them for?—A. I cannot give you an exact idea on that head; but I would say that the whole expense would not be less than \$3 a barrel.

Q. Including barrel and salt?—A. That includes everything.

Q. And what is the cost of freight to Boston?—A. About 85 cents, or about 80 cents, actual freight. The cost of curing depends so much on the catch, that you cannot form an idea with regard to the actual cost. It costs as much to cure 700 barrels as 1,700, or there is very little difference in this respect. The cost is about the same in either case, aside from the barrel and salt. If you have a gang of men to cure fish, they are there, and you have to pay them wages; you must feed them, and when there is a small catch you have the same expense on your hands as when there is a large catch. One year you may be successful, and the cost will be small; and another year you may not be successful, and the cost will then be very high; and so no estimate can be made in this regard that would be correct.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Your vessels were not seized for fishing inshore, but for some trouble about registration?—A. They were seized on the ground that I was a foreigner, who had a beneficial interest in vessels flying the English flag.

Q. At what figure did you put the price for a bushel of salt?—A. About 25 cents.

Q. And how many bushels are there to a barrel?—A. $3\frac{1}{2}$, I should think, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels would cure a barrel, pickle and all.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. With regard to this conflict of testimony, which is very great, as to the proportion of mackerel that is taken by American vessels inside of the three-mile limit—running, as you know, with witnesses from P. E. Island, to the extent of two-thirds or three-quarters of their catch—do you know whether that has always been the opinion of gentlemen familiar with the fishing there on the island and the localities where this fishing is prosecuted?—A. I never supposed that it was. I do not think that this has been the case, but I cannot tell you what has been the opinion in this relation farther than stating my own impression re-

specting it. I gave my impression from what I could hear from these men and learn from my own observation, as you see, three or four years ago; and I gave it in good faith; but whether right or wrong, of course that was merely the impression which I received. The testimony given here by gentlemen of integrity and character from the States is very different from that; and the testimony of men from the island, and the masters of my vessels, is right the reverse. I do not think that my opinion on this subject is worth anything under the circumstances.

No. 72.

MONDAY, *October 22, 1877.*

The Conference met.

WALTER M. FALT, of Gloucester, Mass., fish merchant, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot :

Question. Where do you live?—Answer. At Gloucester.

Q. How old are you?—A. Fifty-four. I am in my 55th year.

Q. What is your business?—A. I carry on a fishing business.

Q. What do you mean by that? Are you a fish merchant, or are you engaged actively in the fishing?—A. We have a firm, and send out vessels.

Q. You have a firm, and are engaged in sending out fishing vessels of your own?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you been a practical fisherman at any time?—A. I was eleven and a half years a master, and other years as a hand.

Q. What fishing did you prosecute?—A. Principally cod fishing and halibut. George's fishing in the spring, and halibut fishing for the remainder of the year.

Q. You haven't been doing anything very much in mackerel?—A. I never tried that since I was a master, but a month at a time was the longest at any time, and hardly that.

Q. How many vessels have you?—A. 18 now that we handle.

Q. They are engaged in what sort of fishing?—A. Mackerel, fresh halibut, George's, salt fishing.

Q. What proportion of your vessels are engaged in the mackerel fishing?—A. We send ten in the business.

Q. Where do they go generally?—A. In the spring, generally south, down off New York, and to the southward, then they follow this way; that is, on our western shore.

Q. Do these ten vessels go into the gulf?—A. We had five there this year.

Q. Have you been sending very long to the bay?—A. Well, this is the first year we have had so many for the last three years. We dwindled down until we had only one; that was last year.

Q. Have you any knowledge, or are you able to form any opinion where your bay fishers go?—A. Well, they generally go northward to the Banks Bradley and Orphan, up that way and across to the Magdalens.

Q. Have you been able to form any knowledge, from what you know, what proportion of the catches are made within the three-mile limit in the bay?—A. In all my practice, and what I understand from my vessels, they practice outside of three miles on Bradley and Orphan, and at the Magdalens.

Q. Well, in the course of your experience, with your vessels going to the coast and to the bay, have you been able to form any comparison

in your own mind as to the relative value of the two fisheries?—A. We found, since I have been in the business, that our business has been more profitable on our own coast.

Q. Do you know what has been done, on the average, in the bay? I mean per vessel?—A. Well, I guess you have the account here for my firm.

Q. You are a partner of Leighton?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, now, with regard to the halibut fishery, how many vessels have been employed, and what has been your knowledge of it yourself? How long have you been at it?—A. I followed that, I say, eleven and a half years, from the first of April to the last of November; that is what I practiced myself when I followed the water, to the middle of November or so.

Q. And where have you caught your halibut?—A. On what we call the Seal Island ground, Brown's and Lahave, and in the Bay of Fundy, as far as Grand Manan, Marblehead Bank, and so on.

Q. In your experience, what sort of fishing is it, off shore or within?—A. Well, you can't get any halibut within three miles, nor on the three miles.

Q. Will you point out what course you ran when you were halibut-fishing, and how near it brought you to Cape Sable Island?—A. (Refers to map and points out fishing-grounds.)

Q. You know the waters from Seal Island toward Cape Sable and Cape Sable Island?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever known in your experience in that fishing, of any fishing for halibut within three miles?—A. No. It can't be got.

Q. Let me call your attention to the testimony of a gentleman by the name of William B. Smith, residing at Cape Sable Island. It is as follows (Reads evidence of William B. Smith, page 439 of the British evidence, from the question: "With regard to halibut-fishing. Is there any halibut-fishing carried on near Cape Sable Island?" To the question: "Do they take the halibut they catch to market salted or fresh?" and the answer, inclusive): Now, with your knowledge—you say you have yourself fished for eleven and a half years—do you think there is any possibility of that being true?

Mr. THOMSON. Is that a general answer to the whole question?

Mr. TRESKOT. Well, I will ask them severally.

Q. "With regard to halibut-fishing, is there any halibut-fishing carried on near Cape Sable Island?—A. Not by British people; the Americans fish there."—A. That is not the case.

Q. "Every year?—A. Every year, regularly"—A. They are not to be found there in any such depth of water; not so near.

Q. "What is the number of the fleet which comes there to fish for halibut?—A. I have seen as high as nine sail at one time. I should suppose there was from 40 to 60 sail."—A. There never was that many in the business in the world.

Q. You have some knowledge of the matter?—A. I have. I know every root and branch of it; and when it was at the most it was in those years that I was going. That was the most that ever was done on those grounds.

Q. How many halibut vessels from Gloucester are there do you suppose?—A. We ran at the most of any time 31 sail. These don't resort to these grounds whatever. They resort to Grand Bank, Western Bank, Quero, and all such as that.

Q. What proportion of that fleet would be fishing about Seal Island,

within the neighborhood of Cape Sable?—A. None at all. No one practiced that business since I left it.

Q. "Are the vessels cod-fishers at other times of the year?—A. I think they are. During the latter part of May and June they fish for halibut; then they fish for cod until October, and then for halibut." What do you say to that? Do you know of any of the American fleet fishing for halibut in May and June?—A. No.

Q. And then for cod until October, and then for halibut?—A. No.

Q. Now you can answer the question whether a man can see a fleet catching them from his door.—A. That man never saw them.

Q. I notice, in another portion of this same gentleman's testimony, he was asked this question: "You used to catch halibut in weirs?" and answered, "Yes, in our traps." You don't know of halibut being caught in weirs as a practice?—A. Well, he might be just as likely; just as a whale would go into a harbor, or a black fish, once in a hundred years.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. Did you go into the Bay St. Lawrence when you went aboard yourself?—A. When I was master? No.

Q. You never were there at all?—A. I was there as a hand.

Q. What years?—A. 1851, 1853, 1854, and 1855.

Q. In 1851, where did you fish?—A. We went up to the northward, on to the Banks, and across to the Magdalen.

Q. You never fished within three miles?—A. We didn't practice that, because the cutters were around.

Q. Was that the reason you didn't fish within?—A. And also, our master that I was with, it was the first he was there, and he was more cautious probably.

Q. Was that the reason you did not fish inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. What was your catch?—A. We brought home 240 barrels.

Q. What was your tonnage?—A. Fifty-five tons; it was what they call a pinkey.

Q. What was her full cargo?—A. That was all she brought.

Q. What time did you go into the gulf?—A. The latter end of July.

Q. And what time did you come out?—A. We came out somewhere along the last of October.

Q. During all that time you never fished within three miles?—A. We fished when we came down from the northward, after the big gale. We went across to Margaree, and fished to make up somewhere about 20 barrels.

Q. What time did you go to Margaree?—A. After the big gale, ten days.

Q. What time was the gale?—A. In October.

Q. You were ten days in at Margaree?—A. I say we were at Souris a week, and then came across between the island and what we call Margaree, fishing across that way.

Q. Where were you during the big gale?—A. Up to the island.

Q. What part of the island?—A. We came out of Gaspé that morning the gale came on.

Q. It was a northeast gale?—A. Yes.

Q. You were north of the island, on that coast, when you came down from Gaspé?—A. I say we came out of Malpeque.

Q. You said Gaspé?—A. I did not mean Gaspé; I mean Malpeque. We came out of that on a Friday morning, and Friday night the gale came on. It was moderate, and the wind hauled to the eastward, so we concluded we would go back, but it shut down so thick that we had to haul off.

Q. Were you out in the bay all the time?—A. Yes.

Q. With Prince Edward Island forming a lee coast?—A. Yes.

Q. You rode out the gale?—A. We were under sail—the same as if it were to-night; in the morning we wore and laid her head to the southward and eastward until half past twelve o'clock, and then parted at half past five that night, and continued to make our way down the island.

Q. What time was the storm over?—A. Not until Saturday night.

Q. And notwithstanding this great storm, you came down along the windward of Prince Edward Island without being wrecked?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then you went over to Margaree?—A. Then we went to Souris and repaired our damages, and came out and went across towards Margaree and finished up the balance.

Q. There you went within three miles?—A. We caught some fish.

Q. You did go in?—A. We had the heft of our fish before we went in.

Q. You did go in and fish, didn't you?—A. Well, I suppose if we anchored under the island we were in.

Q. What objection have you to mention the fact?—A. I acknowledge we went inside.

Q. You took fish in there?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. I can't tell exactly. It might tote up 15 or it might be 20.

Q. It might be 25 or 30?—A. I didn't say that.

Q. But can you say it and tell the truth? If you did say 30 would it be true?—A. No. I guess we didn't get that many there.

Q. How many do you say you did get?—A. From 15 to 20.

Q. Do you swear you didn't get more than 20?—A. I would not swear, because I could not bring that to my recollection perfectly.

Q. Those you took close inshore?—A. Well, yes, the same as the rest of our vessels did.

Q. Were there many besides your own in?—A. I could not call that to my recollection. There might be one or two or there might be half a dozen.

Q. Were there or not?—A. I could not say.

Q. Did you see any?—A. I say I could not bring it to my recollection. I know there was some there.

Q. Did you see any?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you see them also fishing within the limits?—A. I could not call that to my recollection, who they were. There was English and American vessels there.

Q. Will you undertake to swear, or will you undertake to deny, that there was a number of American vessels fishing around you at the same time, and fishing within three miles?—A. I could not say that.

Q. You will not swear there was any? Have you any doubt whatever that a number of American vessels were fishing around you within three miles; that they were there, and that you saw them?—A. They are just as likely to be in the same position as myself, three, or four, or five miles.

Q. Do you say your vessel was three, or four, or five miles?—A. She was to and fro, yes.

Q. You admit you took those 20 barrels?—A. I say from 15 to 20.

Q. You took those within three miles?—A. I won't say we did, all of them.

Q. You said you took 15 or 20 barrels within three miles. Now, you

mean to say you did not?—A. You asked me if I was there at Margaree.

Q. I asked you how many you took within the three-mile limit, and you said from 15 to 20. Now you say you didn't do anything of the kind?—A. I don't say I didn't.

Q. Didn't you tell me just now you took those within three miles?—A. I might have answered that.

Q. Did you tell the truth when you did say so?

Mr. TRESPOT. I wish to enter my respectful protest against the style of cross examination.

Mr. THOMSON. I enter my counter-protest against the witness evading plain questions.

Q. Didn't you tell me just now, within the last ten minutes, that you caught from 15 to 20 barrels within the three-mile limit off Margaree?—

A. I stated that we caught from 15 to 20 barrels while we were there. We might have been, I have said, inside of three miles.

Q. Have you any doubt about it?—A. I have no doubt we were inside the limits.

Q. When you took the 15 or 20 barrels?—A. We might not have taken them all.

Q. How many do you swear you took inside the limits?—A. I could not say whether we were all the time inside the three miles.

Q. I don't care whether you were all the time or half the time; but how many barrels will you swear you took within the limits?—A. I can't say.

Q. Will you swear to five?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you swear to ten?—A. No.

Q. Then you swear positively it was between five and ten, and nothing over?—A. I would not swear positively over that.

Q. How many did you get?—A. I will swear to five barrels.

Q. Five as high as you will go, after telling me you caught 20 barrels within three miles?—A. No; I said around that place.

Q. Will you swear you caught one single barrel outside the limits around Margaree?—A. I could not say that we were at the time three miles off all the time or three miles in.

Q. Then your evidence is this, if I understand you: You swear positively that you took five barrels within the limits; and you won't swear that you took one single barrel outside the limits. That is the extraordinary testimony you give now. I ask you, will you swear that you took a single barrel outside, and you say you will not?—A. I say I can swear.

Q. Didn't you tell me—I asked you if you would swear that you caught a single barrel outside, and you said you could not?—A. I didn't understand you.

Q. What was your answer?—A. I said yes, sir.

Q. Didn't you answer that you could not undertake to say?—A. I didn't mean it if I did; not by any means.

Q. Now, your next trip was when?—A. 1853.

Q. Where did you fish then?—A. On the same grounds.

Q. Were you master then?—A. No; I was a hand. All my time in the bay I was a hand.

Q. Did you fish then within the three-mile limit?—A. We fished in the fall on the same grounds, at Margaree and Cheticamp.

Q. Do you mean to say those were the only places you fished within the limits—that is, Cheticamp and Margaree?—A. We fished up the island, on Bradley and Orphan and at the Magdalens.

Q. Do you call that fishing within the limits?—A. No.

Q. Then I come back to your fishing on Margaree and Cheticamp. Do I understand you only fished within the limits at Margaree and Cheticamp?—A. Yes.

Q. How many did you take?—A. Probably about 40 barrels.

Q. Now you understand my question, how many barrels did you take at Margaree and Cheticamp within the limits? Your answer is 40 barrels. Is that right? Did you take off Margaree and Cheticamp, outside the limits, any fish?—A. When we worked across from the Magdalenus we fished across outside the limits.

Q. You just took 40 barrels within the limits?—A. To the best of my knowledge.

Q. Those you certainly did take within the limits? On that occasion were there a number of American vessels fishing around you?—A. I could not tell you the number, whether there were more or less.

Q. I want to know whether there was a number of American vessels around you. There were vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you give me any idea how many?—A. I cannot.

Q. Over ten?—A. I could not say.

Q. Could you say there were not twenty?—A. Yes.

Q. Will you swear there were five?—A. I should think there was five the time we were fishing.

Q. They were also fishing, were they?—A. Yes.

Q. Now what was the tonnage of your schooner on that occasion?—A. About 90 tons, carpenters' measurement.

Q. She carried a cargo of 400 barrels?—A. No, 275.

Q. Was that a full cargo?—A. No, she carried about 300 barrels.

Q. Now during all that time you did not fish anywhere around the coast of New Brunswick, Bay Chaleurs, or Prince Edward Island?—A. No.

Q. Why didn't you fish within three miles?—A. All our fishing was on the Cape Breton side.

Q. Why didn't you fish along the Prince Edward Island shore?—A. Because we were not on that coast.

Q. You were on the coast if you were on the Orphan Bank. That is a very little distance from the coast; why didn't you fish inshore there?—A. We didn't resort there.

Q. Why? Were you afraid of cutters?—A. Yes: the large one was there, and the small one, too, and the sailing-schooners.

Q. What time did you leave the bay that year?—A. In the latter part of October.

Q. And you didn't get a full cargo?—A. No.

Q. Do you know anything about the inshore fisheries, of your own knowledge, at all, except at Margaree and Cheticamp?—A. No.

Q. You never have fished inshore except there?—A. That is all.

Q. Never at any time?—A. No.

Q. What time did you go next into the bay?—A. 1854.

Q. After the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you had the liberty of fishing inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you swear that you never tried inshore, although you had the liberty?—A. We had the liberty then of going in to get water.

Q. And to fish too?—A. We took the opportunity, as we came out of the harbor, or anything like that, to try as we went off.

Q. Didn't you know you had as good a right as the British fishermen?—A. Yes.

Q. Didn't you try?—A. Yes.

Q. You say you only tried when you were driven in?—A. I say when we came out of the harbor.

Q. This was the common practice, whether you had the right or not?—A. Yes; that is our practice on our own coast.

Q. Didn't you ever go in and try what the inshore fisheries were like when you had the privilege; there was no cutter then?—A. All my first two years there was.

Q. I am speaking now of 1854. You said you did not go in there, and I want to know why?—A. Wherever we could find them most we tried.

Q. Did you or did you not fish inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. Along the whole coast of Prince Edward Island?—A. Wherever we could find fish, the same as off East Point, off Malpeque, and such like as that.

Q. Did you fish within three miles?—A. You can get a few.

Q. Why did you tell me that at the time you were in the gulf you never fished within the limits except at Cheticamp and Margaree, when it now turns out—A. I mean that time I was there in those seasons.

Q. What seasons?—A. 1851 to 1853.

Q. I did not ask you that. I asked you generally. You told me you never fished inside except at Margaree and Cheticamp. There is no mistake about that?—A. That is all correct, but I didn't intend anything more than that year.

Q. Very well, then, I will take 1855. Did you get a full cargo in 1854?—A. No.

Q. What was the vessel's size?—A. The same size—90 tons.

Q. How many did you get that year?—A. 275.

Q. Was that a full cargo?—A. She would probably carry 350 barrels, small packages and all.

Q. Then you hadn't a full cargo?—A. No; no year I was there.

Q. Didn't you fish along off Cascumpec at all?—A. No; we never found any.

Q. Didn't you fish at the Magdalen Islands at all?—A. We were across there.

Q. Did you catch many there?—A. Some.

Q. Now, take 1855; where did you fish then?—A. On the same grounds.

Q. What do you call the same grounds? Do you mean that you fished along inshore that year?—A. It was inshore at Magaree and Cheticamp.

Q. Anywhere else inshore?—A. No.

Q. Did you get a full cargo?—A. No.

Q. Then, although you did not get a full cargo, you never tried the fishing inshore?—A. No.

Q. Why did you keep away?—A. Wherever we found most fish we resorted.

Q. Now, didn't you get your full cargo?—A. No.

Q. Then why didn't you try inshore?—A. We tried inshore when we were winding up in the fall.

Q. Where?—A. We tried inshore at Margaree and Cheticamp.

Q. Why didn't you try inshore at the island?—A. Because nobody else caught any.

Q. You discovered that others had tried and failed?—A. Yes.

Q. Who did you inquire of?—A. We came with the fleet.

Q. Did you inquire of the vessels that did fish in there, and find

that they didn't catch any?—A. Yes. If they had, we would have tried too.

Q. I ask you, did you ever inquire of other vessels that had fished in there and got nothing?—A. We never practiced inside three miles or two miles of the shore.

Q. Now, don't you know that is an evasion of my question. I asked you if you ever inquired of any captains whether they had fished inside and whether they had got any inside, and you say you never practiced inside. I will put my question again. Did you, on that occasion, in 1855, meet any single American vessel that had fished inside of three miles along the coast of Prince Edward Island, and learn from her that there was no inside fishing?—A. I didn't particularly—

Q. Then, although—

Mr. TRESCOT. Let him answer.

Q. Do you want to say anything else?—A. When we are around among our vessels, we speak and say this: "Did you find any fish, such and so?" And they say "No." Of course we don't go there.

Q. Well, I presume you don't say "such and so." You give the name of the place?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, I ask whether you put the question whether they had fished at any place around the coast of Prince Edward Island?—A. No.

Q. Then, without finding from a single captain that he had fished inside on that coast and caught no mackerel, you came away with part of a cargo, and didn't try inside, although you had full liberty?—A. When we came away, we were on the Cape Breton Island side.

Q. From where?—A. We were at Cheticamp and Margaree. It was in the end of the season, and the mackerel gave out, and we came home.

Q. Now you have given the lie to William B. Smith. Do you know him?—A. No.

Q. According to you there is no fishing along Seal Island at all?—A. Not so close in.

Q. Have you been there?—A. I have passed to and fro.

Q. Have you ever fished there?—A. No.

Q. Then, as to a ground on which you never fished, you are pleased to swear that a man has committed perjury—

Mr. TRESCOT objects.

Q. You are pleased to swear that he has said what was not true when he said he caught fish there. You swear that his statement is utterly untrue, although you never tried it yourself. You don't speak merely of opinions, but you have sworn to it as a fact—

Mr. TRESCOT. The witness referred to (William B. Smith) does not say that he caught fish there, but that he saw them caught.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. Now, why, if you have never tried that ground, do you undertake to say that halibut could not be caught there?—A. Because it is not, in that depth of water.

Q. What is the depth of water within three miles or two miles of the coast there?—A. I guess you can't find anything more than seven to nine fathoms there.

Q. You will swear to that? Do you know that from experience?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you sounded?—A. Yes.

Q. You have sounded there and found it to be only seven fathoms?—A. I say nine.

Q. Now I hold in my hand Admiral Bayfield's map with soundings—

Mr. TRESCOT. What chart is that?

Mr. THOMSON. This is a survey by Andrew P. F. Shortland, assisted by Lieutenant Scott and others. It is one of the admiralty charts.

Mr. TRESBOT. What is the date?

Mr. THOMSON. It is 1855.

Mr. FOSTER. We have one corrected from the latest surveys, in 1876.

Mr. THOMSON. The soundings will not have changed since then.

Mr. FOSTER. They may have been more correctly taken, though.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. Here is Green Island, where that man said he lived ; here are, within two miles of the land, soundings running up to 14, 17, and 18 fathoms ; and here, within half a mile, is a depth of 10 fathoms. All these are in the very place where the witness said he saw the vessels fishing. He gives the bearings about southwest by west. Now, you have sworn that it was impossible for this man to see these vessels, which he swore were one and a half miles and two miles away from him. You don't undertake to say, now that I have shown you the distance from Green Island—you don't undertake to say that from that distance he would fail to see them if they were fishing there?—A. I say this, there was never that many to be seen.

Q. Although you were not there, you undertake to say "that man never saw them"?—A. I have been around the ground. I have been about the place enough to know whether there was that many there.

Q. Now, have you followed the business?—A. I followed it from the 1st April to the middle of November.

Q. And you have taken soundings. I thought you told me just now you didn't fish there?—A. I know there was not that many fishermen ever in the business. I am perfectly satisfied of it.

Q. How long since you were there last?—A. Seven years ago this season.

Q. Of course, you are aware that Smith was speaking of the last year or two, while you hadn't been there for eleven years?—A. Why I spoke—

Q. I don't want to know your reasons ; I ask simply whether you know that Smith was speaking of what happened a year or two ago, while you admit you never were there for the last eleven years?—A. I know I was not there.

Q. And you knew Smith was speaking of what took place a year or two ago?—A. I know there is not that many in the business. I supposed he was speaking of what was transacted in the fishing business.

Q. Did you suppose he was speaking of what was within a year or two ago?—A. No ; I understood that he had been speaking of what happened to and fro for years.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. Just explain that. You are asked whether you understood that Smith was speaking of what he had seen in 1874 and 1875, and whether you denied that he saw those vessels there then, or whether you supposed he was referring to the fishing generally?—A. That is what I referred to. I supposed he referred to what had been transacted in business for years to and fro.

No. 73.

CHARLES H. PEW, of Gloucester, Mass., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster :

Question. You were born in Gloucester?—Answer. Yes.

Q. How old are you ?—A. 42 years old.

Q. You a member of the firm of John Pew & Sons, founded by your father—when ?—A. In 1849.

Q. I believe it is the largest firm in Gloucester ?—A. I guess it is the largest in the States.

Q. What is your business ?—A. Owners and fitters of vessels, and dealers in fish and salt.

Q. How many vessels have you owned or controlled within the last fifteen or twenty years ?—A. About 20 ; we have averaged about 20.

Q. By the way, your father started the firm in 1849 ; when did you go into it ?—A. I went into it when I was 16 years old as a clerk. Then as a partner when I was 20. He shortened my time.

Q. Did you have a brother also in it ?—A. Yes.

Q. He retired from it in 1861, I am informed ?—A. Yes. Then my younger brother came in two or three years after that. He is in it now.

Q. I thought you had a brother that retired about the end of the war ?—A. That is my elder brother.

Q. Who compose the firm now ?—A. My father, myself, and my younger brother. William A. Pew retired at the beginning of the war. My father, previous to the establishment of the business, went fishing himself as a little boy.

Q. Now, what is the principal business of the firm ? What branch ?—A. Well, all are about equally important. We are largely engaged in dealing in codfish. Probably codfish is the larger part of the business. We deal largely in mackerel and herring, and also in salt.

Q. Can you give us a statement of your mackerel business in the bay and on the coast of the United States for the past few years ?—A. I can. It is as follows :

Statistics of production of fish and mackerel, by John Pew & Son, from 1870 to 1876, inclusive.

Year.	Mackerel.		Caught in waters off British coast.				Caught off American shore.				Codfish, &c.		
	Total number of barrels, day.	Total number of barrels, shore.	Bay mackerel.		Value.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	Value.	Pounds of boneless.	Quintals.	Value.	
			No. 1.	No. 2.									
1870	981	2,396	657	984	40	343	2,008	45	\$30,355 79		10,360	\$66,428 39	
1871	2,236	2,322	602	1,253	381	1,219	738	545	32,351 27		13,788	69,049 91	
1872	1,920	2,341	435	146	39	1,415	1,202	664	37,911 01		16,748	85,206 09	
1873	1,504	2,878	864	545	155	1,745	1,478	655	55,965 13		22,759	114,777 22	
1874	1,066	3,542	385	420	191	2,349	1,304	1,889	63,205 96	66,720	22,084	113,154 17	
1875	1,383	2,380	252	99	2	541	411	1,428	20,649 38	325,142	20,444	108,991 10	
1876	167	3,823	137	26	3	*500	*2,823	*500	30,995 00	1,000,000	*30,000	144,306 22	
Total for 7 years	6,957	23,882	3,372	2,773	811	8,112	10,044	5,726	271,333 54	1,391,862	136,183	702,873 10	

* Estimated.

Total value of fish production in 7 years, as above:

Bay mackerel	\$77,995 22
Shore mackerel	\$71,353 54
Codfish, &c	702,873 10
Total	1,052,201 86

These figures give what our vessels caught. They don't give what we purchased outside of what the vessels caught.

Q. When you speak of the catch of your vessels, have they been in the habit of buying mackerel here?—A. No.

Q. But your firm has bought mackerel in Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. Which has been the most profitable to your firm, the bay fishing or the fishing of the United States shores?—A. On the United States shores.

Q. Have you any statement of the result there carried out—the proceeds?—A. No.

Q. Will you give me some illustration of the amount cleared by your vessels on our shores? You gave me one remarkable instance?—A. There was one schooner in 1874, I think it was. She cleared \$8,000, which was divided among the owners.

Q. After the crew was paid?—A. After all expenses.

Q. What did the sharesmen get that year?—A. The sharesmen made, I think, over \$900 each.

Q. It was done within what time?—A. The latter part of June, July, August, and the early part of September.

Q. Where was that mackerel caught?—A. The large part of it was caught off Jeffrey's Bank, just in sight of Gloucester, something like 12 or 14 miles off.

Q. How many barrels of mackerel realized that amount?—A. I think somewhere about 1,400 or 1,500.

Q. What was the quality?—A. Very fine.

Q. You gave me the amount of the last haul that vessel made in that year?—A. It was about 400 barrels in one haul of 10 days, I think. A few barrels short of 400.

Q. This was seining?—A. This one vessel was.

Q. Most of these catches on our shores have been made by seining?—A. For the last four or five years, from 1872, the largest part has been seining.

Q. How many vessels had you in the bay this year—1877?—A. We had 5 go seining, and 4 of them were at one time in the bay.

Q. Did those which went into the bay go equipped with seines and hooks and lines?—A. Yes.

Q. Were they successful seining in the bay?—A. Not as yet.

Q. Have you ever known cases of successful seining in the bay?—A. No.

Q. Can you give the catch of your own vessels in the gulf this summer?—A. We have only had one home, I think, and she has packed somewhere about 200 barrels; and we have one on her way home, which has about 100 sea barrels, and will probably pack about 90 barrels.

Q. Have you heard from the third vessel?—A. We heard from the two others, and they were reported having somewhere about 70 or 80 barrels apiece.

Q. And they were both equipped with hooks and lines?—A. Yes.

Q. Were their fish in the bay caught by seines or by hooks?—A. I should think that the larger part of them were taken with the hook. The statement for the trip is as follows.

Q. How many vessels had you in the gulf in 1876?—A. One.

Q. What did she do?—A. Nothing; she only took 167 barrels.

Q. What was the profit and loss resulting from that voyage?—A. The loss on that trip was \$369.96 to the owners of the vessel. The statement for this trip is as follows:

SCHOONER GENERAL GRANT.

1876.

Dr.

To outfit, viz—

70 hhds. salt; 151 lbs. Manilla; 238 lbs. sugar; 68 qts. beans; 85 lbs. dried apples; 58 gall. molasses; 13 gall. kerosene; 68 lbs. coffee; 25 lbs. tea; 54 lbs. lard; 191 lbs. butter; 1 bbl. pork; 8 doz. mackerel lines; 18 bbls. flour; 6 bbls. beef; 2 feet wood, and other siml'r stores, etc	\$663 91
162 yds. \$2 O. C. duck, at 31c	50 22
Coal	12 75
Towing, \$4; railway bill, \$27.90	31 90
Blocks, etc., \$5.55; stores, etc., in bay, \$42.30	47 85
Expense on trip, \$20.67; skipper's ship, \$66.06	87 23
Railway bill, \$22.75; anchor, etc., \$2.30	25 05
Blacksmithing, \$9.14; rigging, \$20.85	29 99
Calking, \$7.25; sailmaking, \$194.58	201 83
Tinware, \$17.03; painting, \$56.09	75 12
Sparmaker's bill, \$8; teaming, \$11.83	19 83
	<hr/>
	1,245 68

Cr.

By flour sold on trip	\$30 00
Share of trip	832 09
Sundries (split wood, tar'g and scraping, etc)	13 63
Loss on trip	369 96
	<hr/>
	1,245 68

Q. In making this up, did you include anything for the captain of the vessel?—A. Yes. We make up the loss as is done in corporations; that is, the captain, whether interested or not in the vessel, has his share and wages, which are always charged in. This is a separate account from that of the voyage, altogether.

Q. When you say that a vessel has lost so much, do you include in this loss, interest on the cost of the vessel?—A. No. That simply includes the cost of running the vessel for the trip, with regard to outfits and outstanding bills.

Q. Is insurance included?—A. No. We never insure save very little. We cannot afford to do so.

Q. What number of vessels had you in the bay in 1875?—A. Two.

Q. What number of barrels of mackerel must a vessel take in order to make a voyage to the Gulf of St. Lawrence paying?—A. Do you mean for a vessel not employed in other fishing?

Q. Yes. If you decide to send a vessel to the gulf, how many barrels must she bring home in order to make the trip profitable?—A. That would vary some. I have known vessels that got 600 barrels which did not pay their bills; and then I have known vessels which got 300 barrels that did pay them; I should think that it would take about 400 barrels to pay the bills of a vessel.

Q. Without any compensation to the vessel owners?—A. That would be before the vessel paid any profit as a vessel.

Q. What is that reckoning the mackerel to sell for?—A. Well, ones would have to sell at \$15, twos at \$10, and threes at \$8—\$7 or \$8, or thereabouts.

Q. Generally speaking, how much value do you attach to all the fisheries in the Bay of St. Lawrence as a business to be pursued—I mean the fisheries anywhere off the British coast?—A. I do not think that any of them are of any value at all.

Q. Which costs the most—the mackerelers that go into the gulf or

those that fish on our shore?—A. The latter generally are the least expense.

Q. I suppose that a seiner is more expensive than a hook and line vessel?—A. The gear of it is; the gear is what costs most—not the vessel.

Q. What costs the most, the manning of a seiner or of a hook and line vessel?—A. The seiner costs the most, owing to the value of the seine.

Q. Does the extra cost of the seine used on the shore make up for the extra cost of the bait used in the gulf?—A. The seine costs the most—not the bait; but taking the trips on the average, going to the gulf costs the most.

Q. Can an average vessel be run so that a person buying a share in her will get interest on his capital—considering this matter for a number of years?—A. Do you mean taking such a share haphazard, or any way?

Q. Not haphazard; but take an outside owner who buys an interest in a vessel; can he make money by buying such property?—A. You cannot get outside owners to buy such shares now.

Q. Why?—A. Because they have most always lost what they have put in.

Q. How has the business of companies which have gone into the fishing business prospered? I do not refer to Gloucester fishing firms; but how have corporations, which have gone into the fishing business, succeeded?—A. They have been unsuccessful.

Q. You gave me an illustration of one?—A. That was in Salem; I think they called it the Chincoteague Fishing Company. This was an institution got up to assist people to go into the fishing business in Salem by Gloucester people who moved up there.

Q. In hopes of restoring the fishing business of Salem?—A. They wished to build the place up, and they represented that by carrying out their scheme, money would become plentiful in their streets, the retail stores would flourish, &c.; but they failed completely in their undertaking.

Q. Gloucester people up there started a corporation in connection with the fishing business?—A. Yes.

Q. What became of it?—A. I think they subscribed, and put in \$30,000 and bought parts in several fishing-vessels—that is, the firm that went into the affair bought the vessels, and the outside owners put in \$30,000, and took parts in some five or six or eight different vessels. I think that when they divided up they got back about 25 per cent. of what they had put in, without deducting interest or taxes or anything else.

Q. On the winding up of the business?—A. Yes.

Q. Did they have intelligent and decent people to carry on the business?—A. They were successful in Gloucester, and were men who carried with them when they went up there \$15,000 or \$20,000 or \$25,000 cash capital, or capital so represented in vessels and material.

Q. How are your Gloucester vessels, which are run by fishing firms, owned?—A. Firms as such cannot own them, save as individual partners.

Q. The registration has to be made in the names of the individual members of the firm?—A. Yes.

Q. Do the skippers usually have an interest in the vessels?—A. Not as a rule, but a great many of our skippers own shares in our vessels.

Q. Do you keep a separate profit and loss account for the vessel to

show the result of running her as distinct from the rest of the business?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you know whether your vessels, as such, make money or not?—A. Yes.

Q. How is this?—A. Our own vessels up to this last year have generally paid.

Q. Do you mean up to 1877?—A. Up to 1877; yes. In 1876 they paid, though not very much, but up to that time they have paid as vessels.

Q. What has been about the percentage on the average?—A. Sometimes they have paid very largely. I hardly know how to answer that question, but some years I know they have paid 25 per cent.

Q. What was that doing?—A. That was during the years of the war.

Q. In what business?—A. They were employed in different branches of the business—cod-fishing and mackereling.

Q. You have imported salt very largely?—A. We were for many years the only salt dealers there, and we have imported salt for 20 years.

Q. That has been a very large part of your business?—A. Well, no, not a large part, but we have done the larger part of the salt business there. We have sold on the average perhaps 600,000 or 800,000 bushels a year.

Q. Have you obtained the prices of salt for a series of years?—A. I have, since 1860.

Q. Will you give them?—A. In 1860, the average price was \$2 a hogshead.

Q. What prices are these?—A. Those at which we sell.

Q. To anybody that comes for a barrel?—A. No; but wholesale. In 1860, the average price was \$2 a hogshead, measuring 8 bushels; we never weigh it, but we measure it. In 1861 and 1862, the price was also about \$2 a hogshead; in 1863, it was \$2.25; 1864, \$3 $\frac{3}{8}$; 1865, \$6.50; 1866, \$4.25; 1867, \$4; 1868, \$3 $\frac{1}{8}$; 1869, \$2 $\frac{7}{8}$; 1870, \$2 $\frac{1}{2}$; 1871, \$2 $\frac{3}{8}$; 1872, \$2.25; 1873, \$2 $\frac{1}{8}$; 1874, \$2.25; 1875, \$2; 1876, \$1.75; and 1877, \$1 $\frac{1}{8}$; making an average price of \$2.76, for these 18 years, for a hogshead of 8 measured bushels; that is, in American currency.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Including the duty?—A. There is no duty on it; it is in bond. During the years from 1860 to 1866 the prices include the duty, which I think was taken off in 1866 but this did not go into operation until 1867, though we had the privilege of procuring our salt on board of the vessels in bond, while salt obtained on shore was charged the duty.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. During the last two years, the price of salt has been very low?—A. Yes; it is low now.

Q. Your firm have been large buyers of fish?—A. Yes.

Q. It has been the larger part of your business—buying fish from vessels?—A. We have bought more than we caught.

Q. Do you buy mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. Describe how you buy them on the American coast when a vessel comes in with a trip?—A. We go to the wharf and buy the fish as the trip runs, paying different prices for the different numbers.

Q. Is there competition in this respect between the different firms?—

A. There is between the different buyers; the competition generally comes from outside firms. The firms which have vessels generally pack their mackerel.

Q. This is after packing?—A. No; not always. It depends on the

state of the market. We sometimes buy ahead, and sometimes to arrive, and I have known mackerel lay on the market for 2 months sometimes.

Q. How large a quantity of mackerel costing, say, \$20 a barrel retail, will the market of the United States take? How large a market is there for high-priced mackerel?—A. This is very limited. I should not say that over 5,000 or 6,000 or 8,000 barrels of this mackerel would be so taken; the quantity might perhaps go as high as 10,000 barrels; but I would be afraid to hazard that number as a calculation. The market will only take a very limited quantity of this quality.

Q. Where is it taken?—A. Principally by the leading hotels and restaurants, which have it on their bills of fare.

Q. At what figure must the prices of the other grades range in order to secure free consumption of them?—A. Well, they have to be a cheap article of food, and range lower than all other fish and other products of the United States which come into direct competition with them.

Q. What must the prices be per barrel?—A. When the price of number two mackerel, for instance, which is a staple article, gets up to \$9 a barrel, it sells hard; and we find that the trade do not then want it.

Q. What must number one be sold at?—A. If their price was \$15, a large amount of this quality could not be sold.

Q. We notice a very large range of prices in the price-list for mackerel; what do you say to that?—A. I do not know as I understand it. It is owing probably to quality, some.

Q. It is a speculative article with respect to price?—A. Yes; I think it is. I think that the prices of mackerel are as much influenced by speculation as by the catch.

Q. You think so?—A. Yes; I do. I think I can prove that and give an illustration of it.

Q. Let us have it.—A. I think that in the year 1870, if I mistake not, we had the next to the largest catch we ever had in one State; my impression is that the catch that year was over 300,000 barrels—318,000 or 320,000; and I think that prices were higher that year than they have ever been any year that there has been a small catch. I think this was owing to the fact that in 1869, 1868, and 1867 there was a small catch; prices had ruled pretty high, and there had been a considerable demand; and in 1870, when there was a very large catch, the speculators just operated in them and kept prices up.

Q. Were these high prices maintained?—A. No. I think that No. 1 bay mackerel, in the fall, were bought by us at \$22.50 and piled away over winter; and I think that the next May and June they were sold down as low as \$4, \$5, and \$6 a barrel, the same fish; and I think that shore mackerel, which had sold as high as \$24, were then sold for about the same price. Prices had been carried above what the people would give and they would not take them.

Q. Of late years can mackerel be carried beyond the autumn months without loss?—A. No. The way the demand has now turned, we have the best demand the time they are caught; that is to say, August mackerel will sell best in August, September mackerel in September, and October mackerel in October; and when you get through that year and come on to the next year, the demand almost ceases. The market, in this respect, is entirely changed to what it used to be.

Q. And through the winter and spring there is hardly any demand?—A. Well, when you get into April and May and June there is no demand, and holders then get rid of their fish in the best way they can. From 1855 up to 1865 it used to be the direct reverse. We used to have

the best demand in the summer months and June. I have bought old mackerel in July and August that were caught the year preceeding, but to pay very high prices for mackerel now from the commencement of the year would be throwing money away.

Q. Is the demand for salt mackerel as good now as it was years ago ?
—A. No, not nearly so.

Q. To what do you attribute that ?—A. To the inland fisheries.

Q. Such as what ?—A. The white and siscoe or lake herring fisheries. Whitefish have formed the largest element in the destruction of the demand, of late years.

Q. To what regions has salt mackerel gone for consumption ?—A. To those near and in the large cities on the sea-coast, such as Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, and to Baltimore, to a limited extent ; and then they have gone inland.

Q. What quality do the cities take ?—A. Always the best quality, with the exception of Baltimore, which always takes the poorest quality.

Q. Owing to a large negro population ?—A. No ; they are sent thence to the markets south of it, where they take small mackerel, which will number out better than number ones. The price in Baltimore for medium threes is as large, I think, as for threes, and I do not know but as large as for twos, or, at all events, there is very little difference between them. Mackerel threes sell better there than ones.

Q. Retail ?—A. I mean wholesale. Number one mackerel have been, of late years, almost unknown in the Southern market, where 10 or 15 years ago there used to be a large trade for them ; in the New Orleans market, for instance, a great many of them used to be sold.

Q. You spoke of inland fisheries ; what do you say with respect to fresh fish from the sea ?—A. That trade has been developed very much lately, and people will buy fresh fish before they will salt fish, codfish excepted. I do not think that the codfish trade has been affected so much in this direction as the mackerel business. The codfish trade seems to hold its own ; the demand for this fish has, I think, really increased.

Q. It has held its own ?—A. The demand for cod has increased.

Q. Which do you regard as the more important article, the fresh or salt-mackerel ?—A. They are about equal ; there is not much difference between them.

Q. How far west do fresh fish go ?—A. They go all over the whole country. In fact, before I came up here they were making arrangements to take fresh halibut and mackerel in refrigerated cars over the United States in summer. I think that a very large trade in fresh fish could be developed.

Q. And they do go as far west as the Mississippi ?—A. Yes ; and to California. I have known halibut shipped to Omaha and all round those sections of the country.

Q. What do you say with reference to the catch of herring on our own coasts ?—A. Well, the catch of herring there has not been very large, and the price has been very low. I should say, excepting the annual catch during the last 5 or 6 years, 100,000 barrels a year would not be very far from a right estimate.

Q. It has been cheaper to buy than to catch them ?—A. Well, yes.

Q. Is there a large supply of herring on our own coasts ?—A. I think that at the present time the largest supply is off our own coasts.

Q. You told me this morning something about the comparative price of a kind of herring you called round herring ?—A. Yes, round shore herring.

Q. What do you mean by round shore herring?—A. This term is used in contradistinction to the term split herring; these are split down the belly, and the round are salted just as they come out of the water.

Q. You have compared with me the price of them in the United States and the price here in Halifax; what do you say about that?—A. There are very few of them in the Halifax market, and they are asking here \$4 a barrel for them. The Halifax round herring differs from the States round herring; the gills of the former are taken out and a small part of the entrails, and to do this costs about 25 cents a barrel. These herring are quoted at \$4 a barrel; and we calculate to retail them in the States at \$4; but we do not consider them at all.

Q. Their price current in Halifax is higher than the price at which they can be bought in Gloucester?—A. It is higher than we can sell them at to the retail trade.

Q. Have your vessels been in the herring business?—A. Yes, more or less.

Q. Where have they gone for them?—A. To Newfoundland, the Magdalen Islands, and Grand Manan.

Q. Have they ever caught them in Newfoundland?—A. No.

Q. Have they gone there prepared to catch them?—A. No.

Q. They have bought them?—A. They have always carried money there to buy them.

Q. How many vessels have you had go to Grand Manan for herring?—A. We have always had 2 or 3 go there in winter for them since 1869 or 1870. I am not sure which, but I think since 1870.

Q. Have they bought or caught them there?—A. They have always taken from \$1,500 to \$2,000 in American currency, to get a cargo, with 3 or 4 hands. They have carried no fishing gear and they were always supposed to have bought the herring. They always rendered account of them as being bought.

Q. They went there without preparation to fish?—A. They bought them undoubtedly.

Q. And they left money behind them?—A. They carried money, and that they used it on their voyage I have no doubt whatever.

Q. You have no more direct knowledge in this respect?—A. I have their bills, which come from the men down there, who made out the receipts.

Q. What has been the cost of the herring which you have bought in Newfoundland and Grand Manan?—A. When they first went to Newfoundland, which was, I think, in 1860, to Fortune Bay, they used to pay 6 shillings or \$1.20, in gold, a barrel. We used to have them carry part gold and part trade—that is, we used to fit out vessels to go there and we used to estimate the price at \$1.50 a barrel, and take trade enough to amount to \$1.50 a barrel, and always gold enough to reach the same figure. We used to use trade if we could, and otherwise we used gold.

Q. They cost \$1.20 a barrel?—A. That is \$1.20 in the first place, and over \$2 during the last few years. Last year I think that the price was \$2 or \$2.50 per barrel—10 or 12 shillings.

Q. Have you bought herring which were caught on the United States coast?—A. Yes.

Q. How has the quantity which you have purchased there compared with the amount which you bought in Newfoundland and at Grand Manan?—A. It has been smaller than the quantity which we have bought in Newfoundland and at Grand Manan and Magdalen Islands.

Q. Have you purchased both frozen and salt herring?—A. Yes.

Q. You have also been in the cod-fishing business?—A. That has been the principal part of our fishing.

Q. If you compared your cod and mackerel fishery, what proportion would you say is cod and what proportion mackerel?—A. I have the figures. Well, the mackerel would be a very small part of it.

Q. Are the figures on the table which you have put in?—A. Yes.

Q. About what proportion would be cod, and what mackerel?—A. The cod is over two-thirds of it.

Q. Which has been the more profitable?—A. The cod always.

Q. What do you say about the comparative expediency of fishing for cod with fresh or with salt bait on the Grand Banks?—A. That is a pretty hard and difficult question. I can only answer it from our experience with our own vessels.

Q. I only want your general idea respecting it?—A. Well, I think that if the vessels do not use fresh bait, and do not make a practice of it, they will do just as well with salt bait; but if part of them used fresh bait, the whole of them have to do so; that would be my judgment.

Q. I meant to have asked you, before we passed from the herring business, whether anything is done in the exportation of herring from the United States?—A. We made one shipment, I think.

Q. Where?—A. To Gottenburg this last spring.

Q. Others began the business in 1876?—A. Yes; the year before.

Q. Are the herring which are exported caught on the United States shore?—A. They are caught both there and in British waters. I should say that one-half of those which are exported are caught in British waters.

Q. We have had some testimony as to the running expenses of vessels; what does it cost to run cod-fishing vessels that go to Georges Bank, by the year; and in the first place during how many months of the year are they there?—A. This varies a great deal; cod-fishing vessels would probably be for 9 months at Georges Bank, or 8 months would perhaps be a fair average.

Q. What would the running expenses be for a vessel which is there 8 or 9 months, for the year?—A. Well, I think that our vessels there have cost us on the average \$2,300 or \$2,400, not including interest or taxes, or, for the larger part of the time, insurance or depreciation.

Q. You mean money actually paid out?—A. I mean that is the amount of the actual bills of the vessel, nothing else.

Q. What is the yearly expenditure per vessel for anchors?—A. These entail very large bills.

Q. How much are they on the average?—A. I do not know, but the largest bill in this respect is entailed in the cod fishery at the Georges Bank.

Q. How many anchors would you lose per year?—A. Well, the number varies. Vessels which do not lose more than an anchor a year would be considered very fortunate.

Q. Have you had occasion to purchase any mackerel from a provincial vessel this summer, caught while fishing off our coast?—A. Yes.

Q. What was her name, what did she do, and what did you buy?—A. She had been seining, and I think her name was the Harriet. She belonged somewhere about Shelburne or Lockport, or somewhere about there. She was seining on our shore, and we bought mackerel.

Q. Where was this at?—A. At Gloucester.

Q. She brought them there?—A. Yes, and landed them at our wharf. We bought them before she landed them.

Q. What does an anchor cost?—A. This year they cost six cents a pound, and an anchor will average 600 pounds for a vessel, without the stock. The price for an anchor has this year been \$38, and the price has been as high as fifteen cents a pound. Some years the same anchor has cost \$90.

Q. That is for the anchor and chain part?—A. It is for the anchor and stock, and for nothing else.

Q. What does a cable cost?—A. About \$2 a fathom this year. I think that a cable of 250 fathoms would cost this year as near \$500 as could be calculated.

Q. How many cables have you in your vessel?—A. We generally have one spring cable of about 250 fathoms in length.

Q. How often has it to be renewed?—A. They are not renewed much over once in two years. We generally have to buy from 100 to 150 fathoms of cable every year for a vessel that is following the fishing right along.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg :

Q. Where are they made?—A. In Boston. They are spun and are made of manila. We do not use chains at all.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. Your business expenses cover the period when there was as well as when there was not a duty on fish? You did business previous to, during, and subsequent to reciprocity, and since the Treaty of Washington, and I want to know whether, in your judgment, if the duty of \$2 a barrel were reimposed on mackerel coming from the provinces into the American market, it would come out of the provincial fishermen or out of the people of the United States?—A. It would come out of the provincial fishermen, I should say.

Q. How near prohibitory would a duty of \$2 a barrel, put on all grades of mackerel, be found?—A. I should think it would destroy all the profit and make their business unprofitable. It would tend that way.

Q. What would be the effect of a duty of \$1 a barrel on provincial herring?—A. That would be total prohibition. Herring do not sometimes sell in the market at over \$2.50 a barrel.

Q. What has been the effect of admitting herring from the provinces under the treaty as to the herring business? To what extent has the business of sending herring from the provinces to our market grown up since the duty was removed?—A. I think it has increased.

Q. Was it very large or was there any of it when the duty was on?—A. I think it was then very small—there was hardly any of it at that time.

Q. Have you vessels engaged in the halibut fishery?—A. Yes; but only incidentally. The vessels that fish for cod on George's Bank always bring in more or less of halibut.

Q. Fresh or salt?—A. Fresh; the salt halibut comes from the Bank.

Q. This has never with you been an exclusive fishery?—A. No.

Q. How many vessels go from Gloucester to catch halibut?—A. The fleet this year, I think, numbered 31 vessels.

Q. From your own knowledge you do not know where those vessels go; but, speaking from report, where have they gone?—A. Of late years they have gone off into deep water off the western edge of the Grand Bank and to the southern part of Saint Peter's and Quereau Bank as it falls off toward the gulf. The fishing firms always follow

where the vessels fish, in order to know where they go and to keep watch of the voyages.

Q. Have you known of any considerable number of them going in the vicinity of Cape Sable or Seal Island?—A. I never heard of any going there.

Q. What does it cost to build a fishing-schooner at Gloucester by the ton?—A. I think that a schooner of 100 tons, old tonnage, would cost about \$7,000 or \$7,200.

Q. Old tonnage is carpenter's measurement?—A. 100 tons old tonnage would average from 66 to 70 tons register.

Q. You think it would cost over \$70 a ton?—A. Yes; we built three vessels this last season, and I think that they cost us about that.

Q. What do you include in the cost of the vessel?—A. Everything, exclusive of the fishing-gear—cables, anchors, and all those things.

Q. Can anybody get this done any cheaper than yourself?—A. I do not know about that.

Q. No one has more facilities for getting it done cheaper, of course. How does the character of the vessels built in Gloucester for the Gloucester fleet compare with the fishing-vessels built in the provinces?—A. The former are better than the latter in every way.

Q. Explain in what particular?—A. They are better built and better modeled, and their material is better.

Q. And what material is so used up here?—A. I do not know, but it is some soft wood or other. I never inquired much about it.

Q. Could you estimate the difference a ton between what you should suppose it would cost to build a mackerel-fishing schooner here and such cost in Gloucester? I do not mean built here; but suppose a vessel was built in Gloucester as they are built here, what would this cost here?—A. I do not know. That would be a pretty hard thing to tell. I do not think that you could get a man there to build a vessel in that way.

Q. What has been the conditions of fishing towns in Massachusetts, aside from Gloucester?—A. I think their business has decreased.

Q. Name these towns as they occur to you?—A. I think that Manchester, the town nearest Gloucester, a great many years ago, had from 12 to 13 vessels which went to the Banks, but now none are owned there. Beverly used to have, I think, about 50 vessels, which number is reduced to about 26 or 28. Marblehead used to be a very large fishing place; I think that at one time from 60 to 70 vessels were owned there; I think that originally this was the largest fishing place in Massachusetts; but now its fishing business has almost entirely gone.

Q. What is Marblehead doing now?—A. It has gone into the shore business. Plymouth used to be a very large fishing place, owning from 60 to 70 vessels; but this number now has fallen off down to 20 or 30, I think. The business of these towns has decreased all round, with the exception of Provincetown, which has held her own; they have there made fishing their principal business altogether. I think that Provincetown has held her own, but all along the other smaller towns have lost about all their fishing business, which has become centralized mostly in Gloucester.

Q. Has the fishing business of Wellfleet increased?—A. No; she has lost her cod-fishing business, and now only follows the mackerel business.

Q. You mean by fishing business, anything?—A. Yes; anything in the shape of fishing.

Q. Both cod and mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. The general result is that as Gloucester has increased the other fishing places have decreased?—A. Yes.

Q. If you cannot make money in the fishing business in Gloucester, is there any place on the continent where it can be so made?—A. No; if it cannot be made there, then it can be so made nowhere.

Q. You have all the appliances necessary in this connection?—A. Yes.

Q. And you know your business?—A. Yes.

Q. You have said that your vessels have done well up to this year, and that sometimes they have made as much as 25 per cent.; and I would like you to state more fully the business which your vessels have done and the way in which they have made money.—A. We never, with my father, went anywhere except on our own shores; and he always, I think, from the time he commenced business, made a great deal of money in the fishing business; but we only went on our own shore exclusively, and have only taken the bay fishery and the mackerel fishery as incidental. We have done very well, for the reason that we have been on our own shore when other vessels were in the bay, when the bay fishery was followed more largely than is the case at present.

Q. Your firm is undoubtedly the most prosperous and the largest in Gloucester?—A. I would not say that.

Q. Is there any doubt about it; there is no doubt about it?—A. We are called so.

Q. Did you have a brother who went out of business a few years ago?—A. Yes; he went out in 1865, I think. He was the one who went out of our firm in 1861, when our firm dissolved; he then went into business by himself, and was in business in 1862, 1863, and 1864, and I think he went out in 1865.

Q. Was he by himself?—A. Yes; he was for four years by himself, and then he retired altogether.

Q. I want to know whether you, yourself, would not have been better off at the present time if you had followed your brother's example, and retired in 1865?—A. Yes; I would then have been better off to-day.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. What did your brother retire on, or withdraw from business on?—A. When he retired from our own firm?

Q. Yes.—A. I think on something like \$25,000 or \$30,000, or thereabouts.

Q. What share had he?—A. One-third of the profits of the business.

Q. Exclusive of vessels?—A. Yes; he owned part of the vessels, all of which were mackerelers, and he took his stock.

Q. During how many years had he been in the business?—A. I think he went into it in 1853.

Q. And he retired in 1861?—A. From our firm; yes.

Q. Worth \$30,000 or \$25,000?—A. Yes.

Q. Your firm owned about twenty vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. What would be the average price of these vessels?—A. This year?

Q. Well, yes.—A. Values have gone down so much that it is almost impossible to select an average value right along; but this year these vessels would be worth, perhaps, a little less than \$5,000—perhaps \$4,500 or \$4,800.

Q. All round?—A. Yes; that would be their average value.

Q. This would be about \$100,000?—A. They cost us more.

Q. Did they cost you \$150,000?—A. I think so.

Q. I suppose that you have large establishments there besides?—A. Yes.

Q. Wharves, &c.?—A. We have four wharves.

Q. I suppose you have a quarter of a million invested in them?—A. That would be a large estimate.

Q. Would \$200,000 be a large estimate?—A. I think they cost us nearly that.

Q. You spoke of a number of vessels engaged in the mackerel business; I understood you to mean that they were exclusively halibuting?—A. Yes; what we call fresh halibuting.

Q. I understand from the evidence we have had that there are other vessels which are engaged partially halibut and partially cod-fishing?—A. Those are vessels which go cod-fishing and catch halibut on their voyages, in Bank vessels.

Q. The number 31 you mentioned does not include these other vessels which fish for halibut and cod promiscuously?—A. No.

Q. You could not give any idea as to how many are engaged, more or less, in halibuting?—A. Catching them on their trips?

Q. Yes.—A. Well, about 100 sail do so.

Q. You, of course, never went halibuting yourself, and you do not know where they catch their fish?—A. I suppose we have accurate information on the subject.

Q. You personally never went on a halibut-fishing voyage?—A. No; save once, when I was a little boy and did not know much about it.

Q. Mr. Foster asked you a few questions about the losing of anchors, and as to whether this ought to be charged to their voyages; George's Bank, I understand, is the place where most of the anchors are lost?—A. Most of the anchors are lost there at certain seasons of the year; yes. More are lost there in February and March than is the case anywhere else.

Q. And a great many vessels would be there in February and March?—A. Yes; from 100 to 125 sail would then be there.

Q. And when they lose anchors they lose cables too?—A. You cannot lose an anchor unless you lose some cable, of course, with it.

Q. Are not more lost on George's Bank than in all the rest of the fisheries put together?—A. No.

Q. Where else are they lost so largely?—A. On the Grand Banks; we also lose them very largely in the bay.

Q. Whereabouts is this the case in the bay?—A. We lose them around the Magdalen Islands, where our vessels usually fish.

Q. You were speaking of a vessel from which you bought some mackerel this year?—A. Yes.

Q. What is her name?—A. I am about sure that it is the Harriet.

Q. You do not know, of course, where they caught these fish?—A. Yes; it was south off the coast of Long Island, and off that way.

Q. How do you know that?—A. The master told me so. I bought them myself.

Q. Where is she registered?—A. In the provinces.

Q. Did she take these fish off shore?—A. She took them off Long Island, She went south fishing; she came to my wharf to be fitted out.

Q. You do mean to say that she caught them near the shore?—A. No; I think she got them from 8 to 10 miles from the shore, where our vessels usually fish.

Q. You have expressed an opinion about the duty; are you a protectionist or a free trader?—A. I am, protectionist.

Q. Is the free admission of fish into the United States an injury to your fishermen?—A. Yes; I think that it is.

Q. Why is it so?—A. I think that it develops the Nova Scotian fishery, and makes for us a rival here.

Q. That is a benefit to us; but why is it an injury to you?—A. Because if your fishery is kept down, the men engaged in it will come up from the provinces and go in our vessels. I think that the larger part of your best skippers learned their trade in American vessels.

Q. Is that the only injury it is to you?—A. Well, the only injury—yes; only to have a rival in business is always an injury. If a man has a clear field, he always does better than if he has a rival.

Q. Why? Does this affect the price at all?—A. What do you mean by price?

Q. The price you obtain for your fish when you sell them?—A. Well, not much. I do not know that it affects the price a great deal.

Q. Then it does you no injury?—A. Yes; if it builds up an opposition trade, it has such an effect.

Q. How can it, if you get the same prices the while?—A. Yes; but then we have to catch more fish.

Q. The free admission of fish does not effect the catch?—A. Certainly it does. If you increase the product of fish in any particular direction, of course it has that effect.

Q. I cannot see how the free admission of fish can affect your catch?—A. For instance, we go to the Grand Banks, and you now fit out vessels to go there; and to all the places where our fishermen go, yours also go.

Q. As to vessels mackerel-fishing, we are withdrawing from it?—A. You have built up a mackerel-fishing fleet?

Q. The evidence is the other way?—A. During reciprocity, for instance, quite a large fleet of vessels was built up along Lunenburg and about there; and when the Reciprocity Treaty was abrogated, I think that quite a number of vessels were left on the stocks, if I am not mistaken, and were not built and finished for one or two years afterwards, though when they were commenced they were intended to be fishing-vessels.

Q. You are giving your impressions, I suppose; you do not profess to intimate that you know this to have been the case?—A. Well, I know it as well as I know Nova Scotia to be down here.

Q. Were you then there present?—A. Parties that were there told me of it.

Q. You have it from hearsay?—A. Parties owning them, or who were having them built, told me so.

Q. I am speaking of mackerel-fishing vessels; and the evidence is to the effect that our mackerel-fishing fleet instead of increasing has been decreasing in number?—A. That is the case everywhere; it is general.

Q. Is the number diminishing very largely?—A. Yes; it is so on our own coast.

Q. So the free admission of fish does not develop our fisheries in that respect; 10 or 12 years ago we had 30 or 40 vessels from Prince Edward Island engaged more or less in the fisheries, and now we have hardly any vessels so engaged; that seems to point the conclusion in the opposite direction?—A. That is because the business is not profitable.

Q. But, so far from that being the case, the business has doubled and quadrupled 10 or 20 times over?—A. The mackerel business?

Q. Yes.—A. Where?

Q. We have 20 times the capital engaged in it now than was the case

10 years ago on Prince Edward Island?—A. Well, it requires 10 or 20 times the capital to get the same amount.

Q. Do I understand you to state that the free admission of fish caught in British waters into your markets does not affect the price?—A. I do not think that it affects the price to any extent; indeed I do not think that it does so at all. I do not think that this affects the price a grain.

Q. You differ a good deal from most of the witnesses we have heard.—A. I will tell you why I think so. It is because the price for consumer does not change at all. I do not believe that the price of mackerel, to the man who eats them, has changed a cent for the last ten years. I consider that the price of mackerel depends to a great degree on the manipulators—the dealers in them. I do not think that the question of duty on or duty off makes one fraction of difference as to the price; this is, however, influenced by many things. If you took the duty off one year and put it on again the next year, I do not think that it would alter the price one fraction, though some other influence might come in and do it. If there was a change in this respect every year, I do not think that it would affect the price one grain. We took the duty off potatoes, which were brought from Prince Edward Island, for instance, during reciprocity, and instead of having cheap potatoes in consequence of this, during that ten years potatoes were higher in the provinces and all over the States than was previously the case. I think they were sold here in the provinces at the rate of \$1 a bushel.

Q. What is your opinion concerning the price of mackerel in this regard?—A. It is that a duty would not change the price one fraction.

Q. I understand you to mean that if the catch was one-half below the average, and if the demand could not be supplied by the catch at all, or if, putting the case in an extreme light, the catch fell to one-eighth, and there was not enough fish to meet the demand, still the price would remain the same.—A. It would not then vary save very little. We have an illustration of it this year. Now, the catch of mackerel this year has been smaller, I think, than has been the case for a great many years. The price of No. 2 mackerel, for instance, for a time went up to \$10 and \$11 a barrel. They were bought up, and the price the fishermen asked for them was given, but still the consumption almost stopped and decreased with no catch on the market; and I have known a man with 20 or 30 barrels on the market, when I have sometimes bought 10,000 barrels in one day, hunting round for a buyer.

Q. Was not the year 1874 a year remarkable for a very large catch?—A. In 1874 there was an average catch, I think. It was nothing more than an average, I think. If I am not mistaken, the catch for 1872 and 1873 was small.

Q. Do you remember it sufficiently to state whether this was the case or not?—A. My impression is that there was about an average catch in 1874.

Q. We have the evidence of several witnesses who state that the catch that year was very large.—A. Still it was large, compared with the catch of 1875; but taking the catches for a series of years, this was not the case.

Q. How was it in 1873?—A. In 1872 and 1873 the catch was small compared with that of 1870.

Q. It was larger in 1874 than it was for the year immediately preceding?—A. Yes.

Q. How were prices that year?—A. In 1874 prices were about fair.

Q. Are you sure of that?—A. Yes.

Q. I know that the catch for Prince Edward Island was very large that year, with very low prices.—A. Well, the island fish are poor fish.

Q. That may be, but that is not the question at all; I am asking you whether the catch was large that year or the price small?—A. They mostly all say that the catch in 1870 was the largest catch but one that we ever had, and the price that year was the largest we have had; you cannot form a calculation that will work uniformly from year to year.

Q. I understand your evidence to be that no matter what the catch is, the price will remain about the same?—A. No; I did not say that.

Q. What did you say?—A. In 1870 we had the largest catch but one which we ever had, I think, in Massachusetts; it numbered, I think, 318,000 barrels, and No. 1 mackerel ruled that year, I think, at \$20 a barrel; while in the next year, 1871, there was about an average catch, and yet the price was then from \$4 to \$5 lower than it was in 1870, with a very large catch; and in 1872 and 1873 there was a small catch, if I mistake not, and I think that the prices were that year about the same. They did not vary, save very little, from 1872.

Q. The catch does affect the price, in your opinion?—A. I say it does some; but then I say there are a great many things which influence the price, such as the manipulations of operators, and all those things.

Q. Is the rise or fall in the price more owing to the manipulation of operations than to other causes?—A. I do not say that; but all these things operate.

Q. To what extent do you think that the catch affects the price; is not the price of mackerel, like that of every other article, governed by the laws of supply and demand; if the supply fails, does not the price go up?—A. That would be the case if the selling price was always so governed; that would be the case if the price to the consumer was always governed by the selling price; but this is not so in the case of mackerel.

Q. You say then that the price to the consumer always remains the same?—A. The price to the man who eats them does not vary, save very little.

Q. That is not affected by the catch at all, in your opinion; the price to the consumer remains the same?—A. It has been the same for the last ten years.

Q. You think so?—A. I know so.

Q. You do not know it; your evidence does not agree with other evidence.—A. I know that is so, because I have had experience in the trade.

Q. You say that the price is uniform, and that, in your opinion, the catch is not affected by it?—A. The catch does not affect the price which the consumer pays; that has not affected it one fraction during the last ten years. I mean this is the case as regards the man who eats and buys them.

Q. The catch, in your opinion, would not affect that price?—A. It has not done so during the last ten years.

Q. Would it do so, in the course of trade, in a long period of time?—A. If competition was sharp, it might reach that point, but it has not done so as yet.

Q. If the catch was reduced to one-eighth, would the consumer, in your opinion, then pay exactly the same for his mackerel which he would pay were it otherwise?—A. They would not pay any more for them.

Q. He would pay the same?—A. I think so; the price is generally fixed at the highest price that will be paid.

Q. The demand for fresh mackerel has increased a good deal of late years?—A. It doubles and quadruples every year.

Q. A considerable portion of the catch on the American shore is sold in the fresh state?—A. Well, yes; I should say that a large portion of it is so sold, and it is increasing.

Q. And that necessarily opens the door for the sale of salt mackerel?—A. I think it shuts the door.

Q. Do you think that the consumption of fresh fish takes place in the States in the West?—A. No; it does not go West.

Q. I thought you said fresh fish were carried as far as California?—A. Yes, fresh sea-fish.

Q. That is what I am talking of, fresh mackerel; it is a sea-fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Is its consumption spreading all along the railways?—A. Yes.

Q. And through all the towns?—A. Yes; at certain seasons of the year.

Q. The necessary result is that this takes up a portion of the catch on the American coast. You said a large portion of it was consumed in the fresh state?—A. Well, it is. You mean to say that the catch of fresh mackerel, which is a large portion of the whole catch, affects the catch of fish off the American coast.

Q. I understood you to say that a large portion of the catch is consumed in the fresh state?—A. Yes; it is, however, not the greater, but a large part of the catch which is so consumed.

Q. Was this statement which you have put in made up by you personally?—A. It was made up by my brother.

Q. Is he in your firm now?—A. Yes.

Q. What is his name?—A. John J.

Q. Is this his handwriting?—A. No.

Q. Is that the handwriting of Mr. Low, who was here the other day?—A. Yes.

Q. Then it was not made up by your brother, but by Mr. Low?—A. No; that is a copy of what was made up by my brother. I do not know if I have the original in my pocket, but I have it all on one sheet.

Q. Is this the form in which your brother made it up?—A. Yes. I want to keep the other one.

Q. You do not know how he got at the values, do you?—A. They are taken from the stocks of fishing-vessels; that is, when the stock of the trip is netted; that is, deducting the packing and other expenses. This is the net stock which is divided among the crew and owners.

Q. This is the valuation at which you settle with the crew?—A. Yes; that is what is divided among the owners and crew.

Q. This does not purport to be the value at which the fish were afterwards sold in the market?—A. That is part of the price we would obtain in the market as dealers.

Q. This does not purport to be the price at which you sold the fish?—A. Not as dealers; no.

Q. As Pew & Sons?—A. It is the price at which the fish would be sold at if they were sold at the time to a person outside.

Q. It does not include the packing-out at all?—A. No.

Q. You afterwards pack the fish and sell them in the market?—A. They are packed and all that is taken out.

Q. I understand that when a vessel comes in the vessel packs off and then settles with the men, and these are the values at which such settlements were made?—A. Yes.

Q. The fish are afterwards placed on the market; and this settlement

does not show what you got for them?—A. I do not know that it does, as ^{it} That.

whether ^{you} feel any satisfaction in drawing the distinction between mostly all in that case and as dealers, do so.—A. There is a marked ^{of} distinction between these two positions.

Q. Is the packing out included in this statement?—A. No.

Q. How could it come out if this is the valuation which you settled with the men; I understand that this does not represent in the slightest degree what you got for the fish, but that it represents the fixed figures at which you settled with the crews, and does not embrace the packing out at all, or what you got for the fish; am I right in making that assumption?—A. No; it is an assumption, just as you say.

Q. Then I am right in it?—A. It is an assumption, because you say it is the price of settlement.

Q. Am I right in saying that you settled with the crew at that price?—A. Yes; of course.

Q. Where, then, am I wrong in that assumption?—A. You say that is the price which we would fix, and at which we would settle with the crew, without regard to anything we got; and I say, in that respect, it would not have any regard to what we got in our separate business, as dealers and retailers; it relates to the packing of the trip, the selling of it wholesale, and the paying of the crew, the highest wholesale price which the fish would bring at time, if sold to anybody, per trip. We then take the trip and sell it at the price which would be brought by the disposal of it in small packages to different parties in the retail trade; this is a separate business.

Q. This represents, of course, the price at which you settled with the crew for the mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. And it is not the price at which you sold the mackerel in the market?—A. Not as a retailer or dealer.

Q. As Pew & Sons, carrying on the fishing business in Gloucester, this does not represent the money received for mackerel when sold?—A. As dealers, no; there is a distinction between the two positions. You judge it as if we settled with the crew at one price and obtained another price, thereby acting dishonestly.

Q. Not at all.—A. It would be so understood.

Q. Where would the dishonesty lie?—A. You say that this is the price you fixed and at which you settled with the crew, without regard to the price you got; and unless that was explained the men would say we did not obtain the price we ought to have secured; and I want the matter set right.

Q. Some of these are mere estimates?—A. They are actual figures.

Q. Some of them are mere estimates?—A. Only one of them is an estimate on the different numbers; the aggregate number is correct.

Q. Can you tell me the length of time each of these vessels was in the bay, and their length of time in the shore-fishing?—A. Well, the average—

Q. Hold: I do not want the average; you have given a list of vessels, 5 in number, which in 1870 were in the bay, and of 8, which were the same year fishing on your shore, and I desire to ascertain the exact time which was spent by these 8 vessels on your shore?—A. It would be about the same—about 4 months.

Q. You say generally, about; was the time occupied in the bay about the same as was the case on your shore?—A. Certainly.

Q. What was the tonnage of these 8, compared with these 5 vessels?—A. It was about the same; they were, perhaps, the same ves-

sels which went one year on our shore and the next year into the bay, changing their voyage. They were the same vessels precisely; some fished on our shore one year and the next year in the bay.

Q. Sometimes vessels going into the bay make very short trips, and at other times this is not the case; there is no particular average for their trips in the bay?—A. Of late years the mackerel fishery has been prosecuted longer on our shore than was previously the case; this has been so since we commenced seining. The vessels during this period have gone south to fish.

Q. Would that be about an average of the trips in the bay and on your shore?—A. Yes; I think that is the exact time which they are usually gone.

Q. Others make 3 trips?—A. I should include all the trips in the one.

Q. You are not able to name the actual vessels which went, and the actual period of time for which they were gone?—A. No; not now.

Q. Could you do so?—A. Yes.

Q. Within a reasonable time?—A. I could do so in a week's time.

Q. It was during the war you made the highest interest on your investment?—A. Yes.

Q. That was during the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. During the latter part of it.

Q. Is it customary to charter vessels in Gloucester?—A. It is not a general custom; it is done occasionally.

Q. Have you ever done it?—A. Yes, I have chartered vessels.

Q. From Gloucester?—A. From Gloucester people.

Q. Fishing-vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you pay per month?—A. When we chartered a vessel, which was some time ago, I think we paid \$250 a month.

Q. Did you get the vessel already fitted out for that sum?—A. Yes.

Q. Is that chartering a usual or an unusual thing?—A. It is an unusual thing.

Q. Very unusual?—A. It is not customary; it is not the general practice.

Q. That was a fishing-vessel you chartered?—A. I think for a fishing voyage. I have chartered herring vessels to go to Newfoundland.

Q. You chartered vessels to go down and buy frozen herring in Newfoundland?—A. To go in winter.

Q. I am speaking of mackerel-fishing. Do you know of any vessel being chartered for that fishing?—A. Yes, a vessel has been chartered this summer.

Q. But excepting that vessel, have vessels been so chartered during the last ten years?—A. They are chartered more or less every year.

Q. For mackerel-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. That system has been kept up?—A. It is not a common practice, but out of the 300 or 400 vessels, some years perhaps three or four would be chartered and other years one or two; it is a small number.

Q. When you were fishing for herring at Newfoundland and Grand Manan, how did you enter them in your market?—A. As merchandise.

Q. As American herring?—A. No; we went under a register, and entered them as British products.

Q. Did you pay any duty on them?—A. No; fresh fish for immediate consumption are admitted duty free always.

Q. When you spoke of paying \$250 per month for the charter of a vessel, did you mean it to apply to the winter or summer season?—A. To the summer season for mackerel.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Have you ever carried on herring-fishing yourself on the southern coast of Newfoundland?—A. No; vessels we own have gone there.

Q. When did you commence the business of sending them there for herring?—A. In 1860 or 1861; 1860, I think.

Q. In what month did you send them?—A. They start about the last of November and come back as quickly as possible, usually arriving home in the early part of February.

Q. Between 1860 and the present time, how many vessels, on an average, have you been in the habit of sending there every winter?—A. Usually two or three every year, right along from year to year.

Q. Have any of your vessels taken nets to catch herring?—A. Never.

Q. You employed the people to catch herring for them?—A. We bought them from the people.

Q. Those are frozen herring you refer to?—A. They were bought, as I understand, and the vessels froze them.

Q. What do you do with the herring?—A. They take them to New York and sell them retail in the markets as fish-food, and some are sold for bait. Some are also sent to Philadelphia and sold for food.

Q. What proportion do you say goes to New York—nearly the whole?—A. I should say New York and Philadelphia, on an average, take two-thirds of them—the larger part of them.

Q. What did you pay the people of Newfoundland for herring last winter?—A. I think up to 6, 8, 10, and 12 shillings; the prices went up, for herring was scarce. Not more than two-thirds of the vessels got loads, consequently they forced the prices up to \$2.50 per barrel.

Q. Have you not bought them as low as 50 cents and 75 cents a barrel?—A. They have never been bought so low. The first year the American vessels went there they were bought for 3 shillings or 4 shillings.

Q. What is the lowest price paid by you?—A. One dollar—6 shillings.

Q. As far back as 1860; are you sure about that?—A. Yes; pretty clear on it.

Q. The lowest price you paid was \$1?—A. Yes; I am clear about that.

Q. You have heard of others having paid 80 cents?—A. The first year the business was started I think they were bought as low as 80 cents; as soon as American vessels commenced to go there the price went up to \$1 and \$1.20.

Q. Has it been a profitable trade with you?—A. Profitable at the early part; unprofitable at the last.

Q. But still you keep sending the same number of vessels?—A. A man does what he has usually been doing.

Q. Have any of your vessels fishing on the Grand Banks gone into Newfoundland for bait?—A. Yes; they have made a practice of late years to go in.

Q. When did they commence that practice?—A. My impression is, in either 1874 or 1875. I am not certain which year, but three or four years ago.

Q. The difference between the twenty vessels and those that have gone to the bay, have been employed on the Banks cod-fishing?—A. Mostly off our own shores, on the Georges, cod-fishing.

Q. How many have been on the Grand Bank?—A. I think the first vessel I had on the Grand Bank was in 1870 or 1871. We have gone from one vessel up to 6, which number we have there this year.

Q. I believe you said that cod-fishing with you had been, on the whole, very prosperous?—A. It has been the best part of our business.

Q. Have you any bills or accounts with you as to what you paid for bait on the coast of Newfoundland?—A. No.

Q. How many times on an average each year would a vessel go in for bait?—A. I should say that some of our vessels would go in once and others three times in one trip. I should think they would go in almost three times on an average.

Q. What bait have they got?—A. Herring, squid, and I am not sure whether they got caplin or not.

Q. Can you say as to what was the amount paid by each vessel for bait for the year?—A. It would be an estimate. I have the drafts with me that I paid this year.

Q. Have you made up an average?—A. No.

Q. Judging from your knowledge, can you approximate the amount?—A. I think I can. I should say we paid from \$2,000 to \$2,500 this present year.

Q. Was that for baiting vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Was that all paid for bait or did it include other articles?—A. The large part of it was for bait.

Q. What proportion?—A. There is only an amount paid for light-dues at Newfoundland.

Q. Were there any other supplies purchased by you?—A. No; we always fit out the vessels ourselves with the necessary supplies.

Q. Do you buy everything for cash?—A. Always for cash.

Q. You will barter anything?—A. Never. They draw sight drafts on.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. I think you said you did not think the British fisheries were of any value?—A. I think they are of very little value.

Q. Then if you were excluded from the bay, it would be of little moment to you?—A. Yes, if your people were kept from our shores and markets.

Q. Without considering the question of market; if American fishermen were excluded from the bay, it would be very little injury to them?—A. It would be very little.

Q. Do you wish that to go on record as your opinion?—A. Yes.

Q. Can you then explain the previous anxiety displayed by them to get the inshore fishery in the bay?—A. No; that is something I should like somebody else to explain. I never could understand why our people wanted it. In 1863, 1864, and 1865, which were the most prosperous years in the bay and when our vessels did the best they ever did there, our vessels on our own shores could make three dollars where they made two dollars in the bay; and yet the men wanted to go in the bay. They always used to go ashore at Prince Edward Island, have a dance and a good time.

Q. You think it was due to the attractions of the island?—A. I think so.

Q. The loss on the voyage in 1876 you place in the statement at \$369?—A. That is a statement of the trip copied from the book.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Was the license fee of \$1 per ton, in your judgment, as much as a mackerel man going into the Bay of St. Lawrence could afford to pay for the privilege of the inshore fishery in the best years?—A. I think it was more.

Q. You have been asked as to the longest of the trips. You have given the results in the bay and the results on the shore from 1870 to 1876 inclusive. I want to know whether this represents the case of vessels which fish through the whole mackerel season in the respective

places?—A. Yes; it does. There are vessels that were fishing altogether on the shore, and vessels that were in the bay all the time they were mackereling, with the exception of last year.

Q. Does it represent from June to October in the bay, and whatever the length of the season was on our own shore?—A. Yes; the time they were in the bay, and the length of the season on our shore. Perhaps the vessels did not go in the bay till July. It has only been two or three years since the time has varied on our shore and in the bay.

Q. You did not put vessels which had fished four or five months on our shore against vessels which had been in the bay for 60 days?—A. No; it represents the whole bay fishery of the vessels.

Q. In those seven years you have had from Bay St. Lawrence \$77,995.22 worth of mackerel, and from our shore \$271,333.54 worth?—A. Yes.

Q. You have been asked about the settlement with the sharesmen at the end of the mackerel voyage. How is the price at which the mackerel is taken by your firm determined?—A. It is determined by the highest market price paid at the day of settlement.

Q. If there is any dispute about it, how do you get at the market price?—A. We always take the highest price paid; it is determined by the sales at the place.

Q. Do you not have a chance to cheat the captain and sharesmen?—A. No.

Q. Why not?—A. Because it is publicly known what the sales are.

Q. The right of packing is reserved by your firm?—A. The prices are made after they are packed.

Q. Reserving the right of packing to your firm, if your firm cannot give as much for the mackerel when packed as others will, have you any right to give only part of the price?—A. No; we are compelled to give the market price. When one master wishes to keep a trip in view of an advancing market, then in that case the judges decide what the trip should be valued at on the day the fish were ready for sale, and the crew will be settled with at that rate. If the market is dull and the crew insist on a settlement, the owner has the privilege of taking the crew's half, putting them on the market and selling them, and at that price the crew will be settled with.

Q. In regard to bay and shore mackerel, how have they compared for two years past?—A. Ever since I can remember, with the exception of two or three years, the shore mackerel have always been the best and brought the highest price. Those two or three years were exceptional, and bay mackerel then brought a higher price.

Q. You are a mackerel buyer?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you bought mackerel in the provinces?—A. I have bought provincial mackerel, but not in the provinces.

Q. When there was a duty on provincial mackerel, and a man bought mackerel at Halifax, would he have to pay the price of that same mackerel in the United States, or would you pay \$2 less?—A. You would always buy at \$2 per barrel less.

Q. Have you bought any mackerel since you have been here?—A. I have tried to buy some.

Q. As to this matter of the corner-grocery prices of mackerel, you say that the retail price to the man who eats mackerel has not varied for the year, however the price in the market has fluctuated?—A. It has not varied for mackerel or codfish, materially.

Q. A man who wants to buy mackerel for his family does not buy a barrel?—A. Perhaps one or two pounds, or one or two fish.

Q. And the retail price for that quantity is still the same?—A. Yes.

Q. I suppose if I buy a salt codfish to make fish-balls for my family it will stay at the same price to me for a good many years, notwithstanding extreme fluctuations in the market?—A. It will hardly vary.

Q. The retailer may make or lose money?—A. The jobber generally gets the difference.

Q. The man selling me cannot raise the price on me much, unless there is a long-continued advance?—A. It would not make much difference on two pounds of fish whether there was an advance of one or two dollars per barrel.

Q. Then if the price goes down what is the effect to the retailer?—A. He does not make as much money.

Q. Mr. Davies, I think I understood you say that you had vessels which went fishing for halibut and cod indiscriminately—catching them promiscuously. Explain.—A. I meant that we have 20 vessels which go fishing for halibut exclusively; those are what we call fresh-halibut vessels. We have vessels which go to the Georges for salt codfish, and the bulk of those in pursuing their salt-fish voyages will get 10, 8, 5, 6, 3, or 100 or 200 pounds of halibut, and they bring them home fresh.

Q. No great part of the vessels going to the Georges fish for halibut as well as cod?—A. A very small part. I have vessels which have not got a single halibut.

Q. When you spoke of paying \$250 a month for chartering a vessel, you spoke of her being all fitted out. Did you mean fitted out with hooks and lines and seines?—A. No; I had reference to the vessel only.

Q. You did not include outfit?—A. No.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Did I understand you to say that this statement of a voyage is copied from the record in your books of an actual voyage?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you a similar account opened for each schooner in your books?—A. Yes.

Q. That represents the charges against the trip; not only the marine slip, but painting, calking, and supplying it with anchors?—A. Yes, against that voyage; we want those things.

Q. You don't presume to say that those are properly chargeable against the quantity of mackerel taken on that trip?—A. Yes; they are charges that come out of the trip, that are incidental to that trip. They ought to be larger.

Q. Why?—A. Because the vessel had been in the winter to Newfoundland, in the spring to the West Indies, and was ready to go on a fishing voyage.

Q. Among the items, \$162 is charged for duck?—A. That would probably be for a stay-sail.

Q. And fairly chargeable against one trip?—A. Certainly, the vessel would have to have it.

Q. There is sail-making, \$194?—A. Yes.

Q. A spar-making bill, \$8. Do you think these charges fairly represent the charges against a vessel for the trip?—A. They vary somewhat. Those are actual charges made against the vessel on that trip.

Q. Would not the account be made up at the end of the year?—A. The account is made up for the voyage. There might be in the sail-maker's bill some charges which ought to go in the spring trip, and some expenses paid in another year should be charged against this trip. They vary a little always.

Q. Then it does not represent truly the charges that ought to be

against this trip to see whether the trip was *bona fide* a profit or loss?—
A. No, because they might be greater or less.

Q. In your capacity as dealer you make a profit on the packing out?—A. Yes.

Q. So, though there is nominally loss, yet practically you did not sustain a loss?—A. Yes, we did. We packed out on that trip 167 barrels. If you find the packing charge, it is, I think, \$175, and we could not possibly make more than \$30 or \$40 out of the packing.

Q. From the other trips made during the year the charges against the vessel would be reduced, and consequently at the end of the year the result might show a profit?—A. Against the trip to Newfoundland there was charged a quantity of duck, and I know we had two sails that were used in the bay trips. Part of the sail-maker's account should go against the bay trip.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. There seem to be \$1,245.68 charged on the debit side of this account, and \$661.94 as an offset for certain items, though they are not carried out. That was the actual cost of the articles?—A. The figures were taken from my books, under my direction.

Q. That account for each vessel is kept in order that you may know how your business is going on?—A. Yes.

Q. The suggestion has been made that it does not accurately represent the precise results of the particular voyages, because some expenses are charged here which would not always be charged, and of course that is true. But how much is the variation? Run your eyes over the items, and let us know to what extent the amount would be likely to vary, taking a number of years?—A. This account ought to be larger.

Q. Explain what you mean.—A. I mean to say that the vessel was partly fitted for the trip when she went in. For instance, she was painted on deck, and her rigging was in perfect order, and she had part of her stores on board, which had been paid for on preceding voyages. This account is a smaller account than it would actually be if the vessel had not gone previously anywhere else.

Q. If Mr. Davies will send anybody to Gloucester, he can have access to examine your books?—A. Yes; and I shall be very glad if he will come and take some shares in our vessels.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. You have mentioned the year 1870 as one of very high prices for mackerel and at the same time a very large catch?—A. Yes.

Q. In 1871 prices were exceedingly low?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know that 1871 was the year when the Washington Treaty was made? Do you think that would have any effect in reducing the prices?—A. Not a great deal.

Q. Your opinion is that notwithstanding the large supply of fish that came in in 1870, and the readmission of Canadian fish provided for in the treaty, it did not really affect the change in the price?—A. No; I lay it altogether to speculation in the article. I know that, because we got very badly bitten.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. What was the date of the break in the prices?—A. They were carried along till about April or May, 1871.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. Mr. Hall told us that the prices broke in December, 1870?—A. We

carried that year 50,000 barrels of mackerel and held them right along at the high prices—at the prices they were nominally on the market; but no sales were made after January or February.

Q. Did you not expect the prices to fall when British fish were admitted?—A. I did not consider the British fish at all.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. In keeping an account for a vessel either by the trip or month, you charge to that month or that trip the expense that has been incurred within that period; of course, the benefit may extend over the next trip?—A. Yes.

Q. For instance, in this account the spar-maker's bill is very small, while the sail-maker's bill is rather large; in the next trip the accounts might be reversed?—A. The accounts of our other vessels all through the whole year, and the profit or loss on the vessel, will not be determined till the end of the year. This, however, was a vessel of which the master owned half, and he had his voyage always made up when it was completed, whether from the Banks or Newfoundland.

Q. In keeping an account of a vessel, it would be difficult and too much a matter of speculation to distribute the cost of a jib or jib-boom over two or three trips, and calculate the percentage?—A. Yes.

Q. To keep such an account would be an impossibility?—A. It would be very difficult.

Q. So you charge to each trip the expenses incurred on that trip?—A. We usually go over the debit and credit accounts as they stand in the ledger about three times a year. There is no settlement made, but we ascertain the condition of the vessels, for instance, in May, August, and October, and we take that into account in our future calculations.

Q. You make those inquiries for your own benefit?—A. Yes; in the management of our business.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Did you look over Major Low's account of Pharsalia?—A. No.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. In regard to the register of vessels and ownership, I did not quite understand you. For instance, a corporation and partnership, as you are, you are obliged to have your vessels owned by individuals, in order to have them registered?—A. The partnership business is a business where we are on equal terms. The vessels we own are registered by us as owners.

Q. Do you own them individually?—A. We each own parts of different vessels. All three own parts in the same vessel; but my father owns more vessels than I do, and I own more vessels than my brother.

Q. I thought they were owned separately. The company owns them, but they are registered by the individual partners?—A. The company does not own them as a company, but they are owned by us as individuals.

Q. The register is in individual names?—A. Just as they are owned. The register shows the owners.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Do licensed fishing-vessels require to enter at the custom-house, or are they exempt?—A. They do not require to enter and clear after they are licensed, unless they are doing foreign trade.

Q. When they confine themselves to legitimate fishing they are not required to enter or clear?—A. No.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Is there any difference in the cost of building the same vessel in your port and in the ports of the provinces?—A. No. I should think it will cost fully as much, and perhaps more, to build in the provinces as good a ship as we build. It will cost fully as much, at any rate.

Q. In regard to halibut-fishing by cod vessels. Are those halibut caught on their way to fish for cod, or do they fish specially for them?—A. No.

Q. You spoke in regard to salting halibut; do you often salt them?—A. We do always on the Grand Banks. Our vessels for salt cod always catch more or less halibut, which they put into salt. One vessel on one of its trips brought back one-fourth of its fare as fitched halibut from the Grand Banks.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Do you say you could not build a vessel of the same kind in the provinces cheaper than at Gloucester?—A. You mean that taking a white-oak vessel you ask me whether they can build it cheaper in the provinces than we can.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. Is there any difference in price in building vessels in our ports and there?—A. There are different kinds of vessels.

Q. Is there any difference in the cost of building vessels; take the same vessel?—A. No; very little. It is only a question of the labor, and that is a very small amount. There is a shipbuilder in Maine who claims he can build them cheaper than they can be built in the provinces.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. That is quite contrary to what we had supposed to be the case. I would like you to justify the opinion.—A. They have not the material in the provinces to build what we call a first-rate ship. They have not any white oak.

Q. Where do you get your white oak?—A. Our white oak we get from New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Our hard pine comes from the Southern States.

Q. Take such vessels as are built in the provinces, are they built at less expense than those at Gloucester?—A. They are cheaper-built fishing-vessels. They use a cheaper-built fishing-vessel in the provinces than we do; but for the same vessel, I have my doubts whether it can be built cheaper in the provinces than in the States.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Do you make that statement with regard to the present time? Vessels built, say last year, and those now building, are they inferior vessels to United States fishing-vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know what vessels have been built at Shelburne and Yarmouth during the last two years?—A. I have seen them.

Q. And you still say they are inferior vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. You wish to be understood as referring to the vessels themselves?—A. I understand you take what I call a vessel—the quality of the wood, and the workmanship put on the vessel. Those vessels I do not consider so good as ours.

Witness handed in the following tables :

Schooner General Grant.

[Sailed June 8; arrived October 27, 1876; 4½ months.]

19	66-200 barrels mess mackerel, at \$17.00	\$328 61
118	36-200 barrels No. 1 mackerel, at 14.50	1,713 61
26	100-200 barrels No. 2 mackerel, at 7.00	185 50
2	100-200 barrels No. 3 mackerel, at 6.00	15 00
1	57-200 barrels rusty mackerel, at 3.75	4 81
	8 barrels slivers, at 2.00	16 00
	Bait sold on trip	29 00

167 159-200	2,292 53
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EXPENSES.

Packing 167 159-200 barrels, at \$1.75	\$293 65
31 barrels slivers, at \$3.50	108 50
10 barrels slivers, at 5.00	50 00
10 barrels clams, at 4.25	42 50
30 barrels slivers, at 3.00	90 00
22 barrels water, \$3.30; 2 feet wood, \$1	4 30
Tarring and scraping	10 00
Water, James Bowie	1 35
Hoisting 175 barrels	2 63
Widows and orphans	4 22

17 men's shares	607 15
Schooner's half	833 29
	832 09

2,292 53

JOHN PEW & SONS.

Retail price of salt at Gloucester, from 1860 to 1877.

	\$2	per	hhd. of 8 measured bushels.
1860	2	"	"
1861	2	"	"
1862	2	"	"
1863	2½	"	"
1864	3	"	"
1865	6½	"	"
1866	4½	"	"
1867	4	"	"
1868	3½	"	"
1869	2½	"	"
1870	2½	"	"
1871	2½	"	"
1872	2½	"	"
1873	2½	"	"
1874	2½	"	"
1875	2	"	"
1876	1½	"	"
1877	1½	"	"
18	49½		

2.76 average price for 18 years.

E. O. E.

JOHN PEW & SONS,
Gloucester, Mass.

No. 74.

GEORGE W. PLUMER, of Gloucester, Mass., commission merchant and fish dealer, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. You were born in Gloucester?—Answer. Yes.

Q. You never were a practical fisherman, I believe ?—A. No; I never went fishing.

Q. When did you actually go into the fishing business on your own account ?—A. On my own account in 1855.

Q. Previous to that you had been a clerk, or otherwise, in a fishing-house ?—A. I had.

Q. How many years ?—A. Six years.

Q. In what fishing house ?—A. J. Mansfield & Sons.

Q. Was that one of the largest firms in Gloucester ?—A. Yes; at that time it was one of the largest houses. It had been engaged in the fisheries 70 or 80 years.

Q. In all kinds of fishing ?—A. General fishing.

Q. You began with one vessel, I suppose ?—A. Yes; a small interest in only one vessel in the bay fishery.

Q. Do you recollect what she made ?—A. About 200 barrels of fish.

Q. In 1856 how many vessels had you ?—A. One vessel.

Q. In 1857 ?—A. I had one vessel, West Gleam, fitted out for seining, and I sent her into the North Bay.

Q. Purse-seining ?—A. It was a seine adapted to either pursing or drawing on shore, as we make them sometimes.

Q. What luck had you with purse-seining in 1857 ?—A. I made a very successful voyage. The vessel packed 520 barrels, I think.

Q. Have you done anything like it since ?—A. No.

Q. What did you do in 1858 ?—A. In 1858, from the fact of having made a successful voyage in the previous year, I fitted out three large vessels with seines for the same business.

Q. What did the different vessels take that year ?—A. One packed 273 barrels, another 270, and the third 47 barrels.

Q. Were those, in fact, taken by seines ?—A. They were not.

Q. How was the seining ?—A. It was not successful; very few were taken. They were mostly taken with hooks.

Q. Then, so far as seining was concerned, the trips were a total failure ?—A. I consider so.

Q. How were those vessels commanded ?—A. One was commanded by the same man who was successful the previous year, another was commanded by his son, and the third by a competent man who has been a witness here, Ezra Turner, of Isle of Haut.

Q. The fish that were obtained were taken by hooks ?—A. Most of them, as I have reason to believe; a small portion may have been taken with seine.

Q. Were those taken with hook taken inshore or offshore ?—A. I personally have no information on the subject.

Q. Do you happen to know from the reports of the masters ?—A. Yes.

Q. How was it ?—A. The report from two of them was that they went round the Newfoundland coast, and to the Magdalen Islands, and caught most of the mackerel there. As regards the third man, I have no recollection as to where he caught his mackerel.

Q. In 1859, did you send out a seiner ?—A. I sent two of those same vessels into the bay. One of them caught 182 barrels, and the voyage of the other was nearly a failure; it caught very few mackerel; 20-odd barrels.

Q. Were those 180-odd barrels taken by hook or seine ?—A. I think with hooks; I am not positive.

Q. In 1860, how many vessels did you send to the bay ?—A. Only one.

Q. How was she fitted out ?—A. With a seine and small boats for the

purpose of fishing inshore round Prince Edward Island. I had been there and had become acquainted with the boat-fishing there, and I sent the vessel there for the express purpose of fishing inshore.

Q. What sort of a seine did she have?—A. A small seine adapted to the shoal waters of the island.

Q. Do you think a fair trial was given to that experiment?—A. I was always a little doubtful of it. The captain did not remain, I think, as long as he should have remained in order to make a successful voyage. He went there, and his report was that, seeing no prospect, he sailed about and went to Seal Island.

Q. Did he get any mackerel at Prince Edward Island in his boats and small seine?—A. I think not, from the fact that he returned with but very few mackerel in September.

Q. Do you remember how many barrels he obtained?—A. I have it down in my memorandum at 26 barrels.

Q. Did he catch them off from the island?—A. I have no means of knowing. From his statement, he caught no mackerel at the island; he caught them in the bay generally.

Q. You think that if he had staid longer, he might have perhaps done better?—A. I did not approve of his leaving as soon as we did.

Q. But still his judgment may have been best?—A. Certainly.

Q. Where did he go when he left Prince Edward Island?—A. He informed me he went to Isle Sable. I believe 20 or 25 years ago fishermen occasionally obtained some very large mackerel there, and he had the idea he might procure some and he went there; but he got practically nothing there, and his voyage was a failure.

Q. From the experience obtained in those several voyages of seining, what was the difficulty experienced, and why did it not succeed in the gulf?—A. The principal reason I can assign for that is that our seines reached the bottom, and the shores about the gulf are of sandstone, forming a rough bottom, something like coral, and the fishermen do not succeed in pursuing them as they can in deep water. Another reason is that the mackerel, in order to be successful at seining, must school—come to the surface of the water and show themselves—which they are not so likely to do in North Bay.

Q. That is the whole reason?—A. I am not enabled to determine that. I know what I have said has been the case.

Q. Did you yourself go to Prince Edward Island and establish a business?—A. I did, in 1858; in connection with those vessels I went to the island, and since that time I have been engaged in shipping produce, and connected a little with the fisheries.

Q. From 1858 you have been connected with the island as a merchant?—A. More or less to the present time.

Q. What is the principal business you have been engaged in at the island?—A. My principal business at the island has been the shipment of potatoes, and in some cases cargoes of oats. I have also shipped cargoes to the West Indies of the general products of the island, including live stock.

Q. Then your business on the island has been dealing in the products of the island, and sending them to the West Indies and elsewhere?—A. Yes; principally to the markets of the United States, and occasionally to the West Indies.

Q. And at the same time you have kept up some connection with the fishing?—A. A little, occasionally.

Q. Have you had an interest in a vessel or two every year?—A. I have, passing over some two or three years. Along about 1863, 1864, and

1865, I was interested in the charter of some English vessels and one or two American vessels in connection with other parties at the island, of which I have no account here. I am unable to give the results of their voyages exactly.

Q. In 1862, did something happen which obliged you to personally stay at the island?—A. My agent, who was down there, died, and I passed a portion of the season there, during 10 or 12 years—during the time of navigation being opened, from spring till December.

Q. Did you have charge of a fishing stage at Rustico?—A. I did during one year, in 1862. The man in charge was drowned, and I passed a portion of the year there, and superintended the business of the stage.

Q. You went into the boat fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. To what extent?—A. We had, I think, 6 or 8 large boats employed.

Q. Was it a paying business to you or not?—A. Not sufficiently so to induce me to stay another year. We caught 600 barrels of mackerel.

Q. With all your boats?—A. Yes.

Q. You had to support the men and furnish supplies?—A. To support the men in the ordinary manner, and we bought their fish.

Q. After one season you gave that up?—A. Yes.

Q. Were you engaged in the produce business and freighting, freighting for other people besides yourself?—A. Yes.

Q. But you still fitted out every year at least one vessel for fishing?—A. Yes, down there I did.

Q. Were those vessels you fitted out down there fitted with seines or hooks and lines, or both?—A. They were fitted with hooks and lines and with seines as accessories; I had the seines on hand, and I sent them as instruments to use in case of the mackerel schooling and an opportunity being offered of catching them.

Q. How long were the boats you used when you were engaged in boat fishing?—A. The boats were, I think, from 25 to 30 feet in length, and were designed with the object of being good boats and able to sail well to the wind. I should say that at first the boats were smaller, and we had larger ones built and increased their size and sea-worthiness and adaptation to the business.

Q. How far out did the boats go to catch mackerel?—A. They went as far as they had occasion to find the fish, it depending on the water. Sometimes the fish were in round the headlands, within one mile of the shore; sometimes within half a mile; and frequently the boats went out so that I could just see them as specks with a glass, say 7 miles. The men used to tell me they went seven or eight miles out, if the mackerel happened to be there.

Q. You spoke of their being near inshore off the headlands; did they keep nearer shore there than at the bend of the island?—A. Yes; from the fact that the water is deeper at the headlands.

Q. I think you did not send any vessels to the bay this year?—A. No.

Q. Did you send one there last year?—A. I did. I had one vessel in North Bay in 1873.

Q. Take all those attempts you have made, with hand-lines and seines adapted to the coast, has it been a profitable or unprofitable business?—A. On the whole, I can say with safety I have not made any money in the business on the aggregate revenues. Of course, in the first year I made a very profitable voyage.

Q. That was in 1863?—A. In 1857.

Q. Do you think that voyage produced an effect on you?—A. It stimulated me to further action.

Q. But your faith has given out?—A. A little, and I am getting a little old.

Q. Did you leave the island in 1873?—A. 1873 was my last visit to the island.

Q. During the time down to 1873 were you called to all other parts of the island on business?—A. I was.

Q. In your business connected with produce and fishing?—A. Yes; in purchasing fish and products.

Q. Thus you kept yourself informed?—A. I was necessarily compelled to do so on account of my general business.

Q. During all that time have you seen many American vessels fishing near the bend of the island?—A. I have not. I have occasionally seen American vessels, but of course, from the land, I had not a very good opportunity of seeing many vessels fishing.

Q. In so far as your observation went, you had not seen many American vessels fishing?—A. I think not many.

Q. Why had you not an opportunity of seeing them—because they were not there?—A. Because I was not there much of the time.

Q. From what you did observe, what conclusion did you come to—that American vessels fished to a great extent within the line of three miles in the bend of the island?—A. I can only say that I saw but few vessels fishing what I considered within the three-mile limit.

Q. How about the distance from the headlands? Were they nearer the headlands than the bend of the island?—A. Necessarily so, because the headlands project more out into the sea.

Q. Have you taken any pains to enable yourself to ascertain the distance from the land of vessels?—A. I have only done so in our own harbor, when the distance can be measured from one shore to another. I have made a little observation in regard to the hulls of vessels appearing above the shore line at that distance.

Q. You have made observations with glasses and with your eyes?—A. Merely incidentally, not with any particular reason or object; but having vessels out from what we call three miles in Gloucester Harbor, I could see how they appear on the horizon.

Q. So you have a substantial judgment as to the distance a vessel is off, when you know the size of the vessel?—A. I have had some experience, because I have had the experience of 50 years in vessels, having had vessels myself, and from general observation.

Q. Have you had occasion to observe how far out the boats went; I don't mean merely your own boats, but other boats?—A. I have; it was part of my duty. I was interested in boats, and when there were indications of a storm or night was coming on, I would take a glass and see how the boats fared, for they might want assistance from the shore.

Q. And what distance out did you often find the large boats that were owned there and engaged in day fishing?—A. I have said before that the fish were sometimes very near the shore, and other times if the weather was fine and the mackerel were playing off the coast, they fished at a distance of 6, 7, or 8 miles from land.

Q. Do you know Malpeque very well?—A. Yes.

Q. What do you think of it as a place to run to?—A. I think Malpeque is a very good harbor after you have entered, but the difficulty is to enter it. It is a place into which, with fine weather and a smooth sea, you can enter with perfect safety.

Q. But suppose the sea has begun to rise; what then?—A. I consider it the same as all other harbors that are barred.

Q. What is the depth of water on the bar at high tide?—A. I have

never measured it; but I have loaded vessels which have drawn 11 feet.

Q. Do they go out except with a high tide and favorable wind?—A. That is left discretionary with the master, of course; he goes when he is prepared to go, but the presumption is he does not go out in a storm.

Q. What kind of place is it in case of an impending storm? If, for instance, the tide is low, or the sea has begun to feel the effect of the gale, is it a safe place?—A. I should think it would be unsafe, and a prudent man would go round North Cape, and try and make a harbor on the other side of the coast.

Q. Is the bar a constant one, or shifting one?—A. I do not know from personal observation; but from general information it is like all sand-bars—changeable. I have had occasion, from year to year, to inquire into the depth of water at the bars on the north side of the island, in anticipation of sending vessels there. It depends on the action of the storms. In some cases the water is deeper one year than another, owing to the action of gales on the sand, as it is with all barred harbors.

Q. Does the bar shift?—A. It usually shifts somewhat by the action of the sea.

Q. Do you know about Cascumpeque? What sort of a bar is there?—A. I have loaded vessels at Cascumpeque frequently. It is a good harbor, and safe when you get inside. It is another barred harbor. It is not considered quite as safe as Malpeque; it has not quite so wide an entrance, and has not quite such deep water.

Q. It has not so good an entrance as Malpeque?—A. I don't consider it so.

Q. In 1868, what had you in the bay?—A. The schooner Rebecca A. Mathews.

TUESDAY, *October 23, 1877.*

The Conference met.

The examination of GEORGE W. PLUMER was resumed.

By Mr. Dana:

Question. Yesterday you spoke about having fitted out a large vessel in 1868; was her crew American?—Answer. Yes.

Q. Did they sail under the American flag?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you purchase a license?—A. I think so. My attention was yesterday called to a memorandum which I had in my possession, and that is the only evidence I have of that fact.

Q. Your impression is that you purchased a license?—A. I think so.

Q. How long was your vessel gone on the voyage?—A. Some three months, according to my impression.

Q. What did she take?—A. About 70 barrels of mackerel.

Q. How much did you lose on that voyage?—A. My estimated loss on the return of the vessel to Charlottetown in October was some \$2,200 or \$2,300.

Q. After 1868 did you do any more fishing in the gulf?—A. I think not, until 1873; but I had some vessels employed on our shore during the interval. In 1873 I had a vessel in the bay.

Q. Had you any vessels on the American coast in 1869, 1870, 1871, and 1872?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. For a portion of the time, two only.

Q. Where were they fishing?—A. On the coasts of Massachusetts and Maine; they went as far south as Cape Henry during that time.

Q. What was the result?—A. I can only give it in general terms; it was rather unsatisfactory. I have not the figures with me.

Q. How did it compare with the result you obtained in the gulf?—A. Unfavorably, except as to the first large catch I had.

Q. Unfavorably, with respect to which fishery?—A. The provincial.

Q. Which was the best fishery?—A. We were rather more successful on our own shore than we were in the bay.

Q. Did you again try fishing in the gulf in 1873?—A. Yes.

Q. How many vessels had you then there?—A. I have only a memorandum of one.

Q. How many trips did she make?—A. One; she shipped home mackerel; on the 5th of August I received 123 barrels, and in December 53 barrels. This vessel was lost in the gale of that year, in October, I think, off the Magdalen Islands. Her entire catch was 181 barrels.

Q. Did this pay?—A. It probably would pay the expenses.

Q. How many vessels had you fishing in the gulf in 1874?—A. One only.

Q. What did she take?—A. I have 186½ barrels down for her—the exact quantity we packed.

Q. What number of vessels had you in the bay in 1875?—A. One, which got during the season about 240 barrels.

Q. What was her first catch?—A. The first sent home was 179 barrels.

Q. Were those fish caught with hooks, or the purse-seine?—A. A small portion of them was caught, I am informed, with the seine, and a very large proportion with the hook.

Q. Have you any information as to what proportion?—A. I think that in the vessel which I sent out in 1873 they obtained, probably, more than 100 barrels with the seine, but in 1874 and 1875, when the vessels had seines, I am not aware of them so securing any.

Q. What did you do in 1876?—A. I then dispatched one vessel to the bay, and she sent home 47½ barrels; she was lost in a gale at Port Hood in October, when she went ashore.

Q. Did you then give up fishing?—A. I have done nothing at it this year.

Q. What can you tell us about the menhaden fisheries in the United States?—A. I have had some general experience in that business; I have employed vessels in the menhaden fishery for bait.

Q. Where did they bring their cargoes of menhaden?—A. To Gloucester.

Q. Were any part of them shipped to Prince Edward Island?—A. I have frequently sold bait to be shipped to Prince Edward Island and the Strait of Canso, and I have myself shipped them there.

Q. Do you know whether orders are received at Gloucester from the island and other places in the provinces for menhaden?—A. Yes, from the fact that I have very frequently received them myself, and have so sold menhaden almost every year more or less. This present year I have sold some to go there.

Q. Have you been engaged in the business of buying frozen herring?—A. Yes.

Q. For how many years?—A. I should say it is now about 20 years since I commenced doing so.

Q. Where did you first buy frozen herring?—A. I think that my first voyages were made to Newfoundland, on its south shore, in Fortune Bay, and to other ports in that direction.

Q. At what other places have you bought them?—A. I have done so in the Bay of Fundy.

Q. During this whole period of 20 years, have you ever heard whether your vessels fished for or bought herring?—A. In one instance I fitted out the schooner Rebecca M. Atwood, which went seining in the bay in 1868, in October, to go on a voyage to Newfoundland; and she procured a cargo of herring. On her return I was told by the master that a portion of these herring were seined by them. I sent a seine and a boat for seining with her. I also gave instructions to purchase, but they succeeded, as I was told, in getting a portion of this cargo by seining.

Q. When was this?—A. In 1868.

Q. This vessel excepted, have you during these 20 years ever caught herring?—A. No; that was the only instance when I ever caught them.

Q. With the exception of this one vessel, have you ever known or heard of American vessels which did catch herring there?—A. I have. I, with Ezra Turner, who was before the Commission, I understand—as I was interested with him in some of his enterprises there—sent nets for the purpose of catching fish ourselves; but not being successful, we abandoned it.

Q. How often did you try this?—A. Only once, I think.

Q. Is that a different case from the one you have mentioned?—A. Yes; it was a different voyage, made to the Bay of Fundy instead of Newfoundland.

Q. Then, in the course of these 20 years you have known of only one vessel that caught a portion of her cargo in Newfoundland, and another which went to catch herring in the Bay of Fundy?—A. Yes.

Q. How long ago was this?—A. The first trip was made in 1868, and the other about 20 years ago.

Q. You have never been engaged in the herring business in any other wise than purchase, and you have never known any American vessels obtain them, save by purchase, with those exceptions?—A. Yes; I have known of one vessel which was reported to have been fitted out from Gloucester expressly to catch herring in the Bay of Fundy; she was an American vessel, with an American crew, and with nets.

Q. How long ago was this?—A. Three or four years ago.

Q. What became of her?—A. The result was that they obtained some herring, but, on the whole, it was not a paying business, and so they abandoned it; so I was informed by the captain.

Q. In the course of 20 years you have only known of two such instances and heard of a third?—A. Yes; that is all.

Q. You are now living at Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. What is the condition of the trade in salt mackerel now, compared with what it was in times past?—A. I think that there has been a decline in the consumption of mackerel, and also a falling off in the catches and in the trade generally within the last 15 years.

Q. What are the causes of the falling off in the demand?—A. Of course that is a matter of conjecture. I have no facts to establish my opinion, but my idea is that this is caused by the greater abundance of fresh fish, or rather the greater facilities for the transportation of fresh fish into the interior of the United States by railroads diverging from different points, and affording better facilities for transportation. It is also due in a very large measure to the increase in the catch of our western-lake fisheries. Another reason I would give for this is as follows: I think there has been a great deal of fraud practiced by our own packers, and the quality of the fish packed has hence deteriorated;

in consequence of this fact, people have been deceived, and have not got a good article. This has been a great weight on the trade.

Q. The quality of the fish has been marked too high?—A. Yes; the packers have not kept up the standard character of their fish.

Q. Do you know how it is with reference to the South and the Southern Middle States? Is there now a demand for mackerel from there as used to be the case?—A. I am informed, and my own experience is, that this demand is not so large as it was formerly.

Q. What do you think has caused the demand to slacken up there particularly? Is anything there used as a substitute for mackerel?—

A. I can only account for it by presuming that the Southern fisheries may have been developed; and I have been informed that they have been somewhat; however, I have no personal knowledge in this matter farther south than Chesapeake Bay.

Q. What is the principal fishery which they have developed for use South?—A. It is what they call a herring fishery, though I should consider that these fish were more similar to our Northern alewives; and the mullet fishery. Whitefish from the lakes are also sent there.

Q. Do you know the extent to which the lake fish have been introduced into common use in the market?—A. I know nothing on this head from personal experience, and all I know about it is derived from general information which I have obtained on that subject from parties who are in the business.

Q. Do you know how much they put up for the market in Chicago?—A. I only know what I have been informed in this regard.

Q. Have any fish merchants left Gloucester to go to the Western States to engage in the lake-fish business?—A. Yes; I recollect one who did go.

Q. What is his name?—A. John J. Clarke.

Q. Was he a man who could not do anything in Gloucester, or was he a man of capital, enterprise, and high standing?—A. He was a man of good standing, with capital enough to carry on his business.

Q. He has gone to Chicago?—A. Yes; he abandoned business in Gloucester and now resides in Chicago.

Q. Is he largely engaged in the lake-fish business?—A. I am told so, and I have had some trade with him myself.

Q. Do you happen to know how much business he did last year?—A. I do not; but was informed by his brother while speaking of the matter incidentally that he packed some 26,000 or 28,000 packages himself.

Q. Of large fish?—A. Yes; whitefish.

Q. You have been to Prince Edward Island, and you have observed operations there carefully; what is the great business of this island, fishing or agriculture?—A. Agricultural pursuits form their principal occupation; on the sea-coast the farmers fish for a portion of the time; but I consider agriculture their principal pursuit.

Q. Fishing with them is incidental?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember a time when they used vessels fishing?—A. I do; at one time, some 12 years ago, I know they fitted out quite a number of vessels at the island.

Q. What was the effect of the Reciprocity Treaty on the fishing interest of the island?—A. I think that its tendency was to develop their fishing business somewhat. They fitted out, as I say, more vessels for this business, and there was quite an increase in the number of their fishing-boats, which were then made of a better style, and provided with better facilities than was previously the case.

Q. How was it with the island fishermen who had been engaged fish-

ing from Gloucester; did they return to the island to any extent and engage in fishing?—A. Well, that is a difficult question to answer. Many of our men come during the summer and return home in the autumn from Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and all parts of British North America; and they may return and they may not. Many of them do return, and some of them take up their permanent residence with us. A large portion of our fishing people are from the provinces.

Q. What was the effect of the termination, of the expiration of the Reciprocity Treaty which took place in 1866, on the fishing interest of Prince Edward Island, this being followed by the restoration of the \$2 a barrel duty?—A. I have not had very much personal knowledge of the fishing about the island since.

Q. Since you withdrew from it?—A. Yes. My last experience there was previous to that, in the boat-fishing. My experience in boat-fishing was in 1862 and 1863, and principally, I think, in 1862.

Q. But you have remained, engaging in other business?—A. I have for a portion of the time, up to the last three or four years, and I am still engaged in it somewhat. I have not been very largely so engaged, personally, but I send vessels there occasionally. I am consequently hardly competent to give an opinion on that subject.

By Mr. Weatherbe:

Q. In 1860 I think you said you were engaged in the boat-fishing on the island?—A. I think it was in 1862.

Q. In 1862 you went down and took charge of a stage where a person had been drowned?—A. Yes; that was my first experience in the boat-fishery.

Q. I think you sent a vessel there with seines and boats in 1860?—A. Yes.

Q. You stated that the captain did not then give that fishing a fair trial?—A. I think so. I consider that he did not. I requested him to remain there until I met him myself, and I started home to make arrangements, but he meanwhile went away. His excuse was that he could not find any fish there, and hence he abandoned the voyage; but I think myself that he did so too soon; I was not quite satisfied with his conduct.

Q. Previous to that you had not engaged in the boat-fishery at all?—A. No; I had, however, been there, and my attention having been called to it, I thought it might be profitable; hence I fitted out that vessel.

Q. You thought you would have been successful?—A. I thought I was warranted in the undertaking.

Q. But previous to that, during the 3 preceding years, you had 3 vessels engaged in the vessel mackerel fishery?—A. Yes.

Q. And they were not very successful?—A. They were not. I gave the result of their trips.

Q. Generally speaking, they were not successful?—A. Two of them made very fair voyages; but one, to which I refer particularly, in 1858, did not do so.

Q. The one which was not successful made her voyage in 1858?—A. Yes; she got some 47 barrels; and the one which, in 1860, went to the island with the boats, only got a few fish.

Q. I think you said that the vessel which was not very successful in 1858, from information that you got, fished outside of the three-mile limit?—A. I am not aware of having made any such statement in connection with those voyages.

Q. Are you able to say now from information you received whether

during that season the fishery was carried on inside or outside of the three-mile limit?—A. They fished I understood, as far as I could have any information on the subject, principally at the Magdalen Islands, and in the fall, off shore; and they did not succeed in getting fish early in the year.

Q. During that year, as far as you could learn, this vessel was engaged fishing at the Magdalen Islands and off shore at other places?—A. I state that these vessels went with seines in the gulf where they were successful the year before; but they then failed to procure their fare there and they abandoned their seines; but during the autumn they succeeded in getting the quantity which I gave.

Q. I am speaking of 1858 altogether; how many barrels did your vessel catch that year?—A. I have stated that one vessel took 273 barrels, another 270, and the third about 47; these are the approximate quantities as near as I could get them.

Q. Did you seek information regarding the vessel which caught the 47 barrels, from the captain, as to where they had fished?—A. Yes; all these vessels were to go and fish on the north shore of the gulf—this was the intention—where one of the captains had succeeded in securing a cargo the year before.

Q. Where did the captain of the vessel which caught the 47 barrels tell you he fished?—A. In the St. Lawrence, near the mouth, on the north shore.

Q. Was that north of Anticosti?—A. Yes; and west of Anticosti, in the vicinity of Seven Islands, and to the west of it, up to the places called St. Nicholas and Godbout.

Q. That is where they fished and failed?—A. That is where all three vessels went early in the season for the purpose of seining mackerel.

Q. And they all fished there?—A. They all went there early in the season.

Q. Were you informed as to whether they fished inshore or not?—A. No; they went there to seine.

Q. That is where they fished?—A. That is where they attempted to fish, but did not succeed in getting mackerel during the summer with seines.

Q. You stated that two of them fished on the Newfoundland coast and at the Magdalen Islands?—A. On their return, after having abandoned their herring voyages, I was informed that they had gone down the coast of Newfoundland to Anticosti and the Magdalen Islands.

Q. For mackerel?—A. Yes.

Q. That is where they fished?—A. Yes; as I am informed.

Q. In 1858, you had no vessels engaged in the mackerel fishery?—A. In 1858, I had three vessels so engaged.

Q. In 1858, you were yourself engaged in shipping potatoes and oats from P. E. Island?—A. In 1858, I went there and made some arrangements for loading these three vessels in the fall with produce.

Q. Then, in 1862, you went to take charge of a fishing stage at Rustico?—A. Yes.

Q. So that was your first personal experience in the mackerel fishery?—A. That was my first experience in the boat fishery.

Q. Were you personally engaged in the fisheries previously to that?—A. I never personally went fishing.

Q. You have had no personal experience in fishing yourself?—A. No, not at all; I have never been a practical fisherman.

Q. You never even had so much personal experience in connection

with the fisheries as you obtained at the fishing stage until you went and took charge of it?—A. No.

Q. Did you oversee the stage and take charge of it personally?—A. Yes; I had general supervision of it that summer.

Q. You had six or eight boats employed?—A. Yes.

Q. And you caught 620 barrels?—A. I think so.

Q. Were these boats manned by persons who resided on the island?—A. We had four men from Gloucester, and the remainder of the crews were island men.

Q. Was this the first experience of these four Gloucester men in boat-fishing?—A. I think that is probable, but they were experienced fishermen.

Q. And the others you picked up on the shore?—A. They were island men.

Q. Were they fishing on shares?—A. Yes.

Q. Recently, you say, you have observed that the boats have increased in size on the island?—A. I think I said I have been so informed. I have had no personal knowledge, or very little, in this regard since.

Q. Have they largely increased in number as well?—A. I only speak on this head from information which I have received from others.

Q. How many boats have you heard they have?—A. I am unable to say anything about the number.

Q. You say that the vessels fish nearer the headlands than the indentations in the shore?—A. I had particular reference to the boats in making that statement.

Q. Do you know where the vessels fished?—A. I have very little personal knowledge with regard to the vessels.

Q. You have very little personal knowledge as to where they fish?—Yes; very little indeed.

Q. Do you know where your vessel fished the year when the license was obtained?—A. I do not; but I asked the sea-master about it a few days before I left home, and he told me that they fished that year principally on Banks Orphan and Bradley.

Q. And he failed there?—A. Yes; they only got a few mackerel that year—about 70 barrels, I think.

Q. Did you direct him to go there and fish?—A. I had no control over that matter.

Q. Did you give him any advice as to where he should fish?—A. No; the captain had control of the voyage.

Q. In fact, you have never had a vessel fish within 3 miles of the shore of Prince Edward Island?—A. Not that I am aware of, with one exception. I think I had only one vessel there for the purpose of boat-fishing.

Q. With that exception you have had no experience in this regard?—A. No; not within the three-mile limit.

Q. Do you mean to say that less mackerel are now used than was formerly the case?—A. That is my impression; certainly.

Q. Can you give me any statistics regarding the quantity of mackerel consumed in the United States?—A. I presume that the whole quantity taken is either exported or consumed.

Q. Where?—A. In the United States.

Q. Is the whole quantity caught off the United States coast consumed there?—A. No; I think that the poorer grade of mackerel, number three, is exported to the West Indies.

Q. Are the mackerel caught in the Bay of St. Lawrence chiefly con-

sumed in the United States?—A. I should say that this is the case with a large portion of them.

Q. Do you know how many barrels of mackerel are caught and consumed in the United States?—A. I do not know how many are there consumed.

Q. Can you give us any sort of an idea as to how many barrels of mackerel are consumed annually in the United States?—A. I should think that fully three-quarters of the entire catch are there consumed.

Q. How many is that?—A. I cannot give the catch for last year.

Q. The largest number of barrels ever consumed in the United States is very small compared with the population?—A. Yes, somewhat so.

Q. Very little of this kind of fish is consumed there in comparison with the population?—A. I think so; the catch some 15 years ago was from 360,000 to 350,000 barrels; and last year it was only 180,000 barrels. I am now giving the figures for the State of Massachusetts alone. Some years the catch has been as high as 300,000 barrels.

Q. Those were caught in that State?—They were packed in that State.

Q. Does this number include what was caught in the bay and packed in that State?—A. I presume so.

Q. During what years was the catch 300,000 barrels?—A. I cannot tell you. I am now only speaking in general terms.

Q. You spoke of a decline in the catch?—A. In 1863 and 1864 we had a very large catch of mackerel.

Q. Can you give any sort of an idea as to the extent of such decline?—A. It has gone down from the quantity mentioned to 180,000 barrels for last year; and this year the catch will be less.

Q. What was it previously?—A. I have no figures which would enable me to give such a statement.

Q. You cannot tell us what it was previously?—A. I cannot give you the figures.

Q. We were told yesterday by Mr. Pew that the custom now was to ship fresh mackerel into the interior?—A. It is so shipped very largely.

Q. Fresh mackerel?—A. Yes; packed in ice.

Q. I understood you to say that the decline in the mackerel trade was owing to existing facilities for sending fish into the interior?—A. I think that to a certain extent is a cause for it.

Q. But if they send this very fish in the interior in the fresh state, how can that cause a decline in the mackerel trade? Would this not rather cause an increase?—A. I was speaking up to the present time of salt mackerel entirely.

Q. Then you admit that fresh mackerel are being sent into the interior in the fresh state?—A. Yes.

Q. And that trade is increasing?—A. I think so; the trade in all kinds of fresh fish is increasing.

Q. Those fish are caught on your own coast?—A. The fresh mackerel; yes.

Q. Do you not think that this would increase the demand for mackerel very greatly?—A. It would increase the demand for fresh mackerel. I do not think that the one branch has any influence at all over the other; that is my impression. There is only a limited demand for mackerel.

Q. And only a limited quantity of mackerel is caught?—A. Certainly.

Q. Do you not think that the demand for fresh fish, which is increasing in the interior, opens an increased demand for salt mackerel?—A. Not at all.

Q. Since there is a limited supply altogether?—A. I think that persons who wish to eat fresh mackerel would never eat salt mackerel.

Q. You think they give up the use of salt mackerel altogether?—A. Not altogether, but to a certain extent.

Q. How is it with regard to codfish?—A. Cod are also shipped fresh.

Q. Is the demand for salt codfish declining?—I think not. I think that the demand for salt codfish is increasing. I think that these are taken in preference to mackerel as an article of food, as they are, I believe, obtained in better condition, as an article of food, than is the case with salt mackerel.

Q. You gave us to understand that one man who carried on the fishing business in Gloucester went West; did he do a very large business in Gloucester?—A. He had quite a number of vessels—six or eight, I think, employed in the business.

Q. I suppose that the fish sent West are sent to him in large quantities?—A. I think that he is not a buyer of fresh sea-fish—at least I am not aware of it; I think that he deals in salt sea-fish.

No. 75.

JAMES A. PETTES, fisherman and hotel-keeper, of Grand Manan, was called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot:

Question. You live at Grand Manan?—Answer. Yes.

Q. How long have you lived there?—A. Since I was 7 years of age.

Q. Where were you born?—A. In Boston.

Q. What is your present occupation?—A. I am a hotel-keeper and I fish in winter.

Q. Do you fish yourself, or buy fish, or fit out fishing-boats?—A. I fish and I buy fish.

Q. How long have you been keeping an hotel there?—A. I could not say exactly, but I have done so for 10 or 15 years. I live at North Head, Grand Manan.

Q. What is the population of Grand Manan?—A. It is somewhere about 2,000; it is now some time since the census was taken.

Q. What proportion of its people would you say are engaged in fishing?—A. I should think less than one-fifth of the population do so, or 350 people.

Q. What fisheries are prosecuted there?—A. The cod, hake, pollack, and herring fisheries, besides haddock; but very few of them are taken; and smoked herring are put up, and frozen herring in winter, and some few pickled herring.

Q. With regard to smoked and frozen and pickled herring, who are the fishermen employed to catch them? Where do they come from?—A. These are mostly natives of the island.

Q. Is there any large proportion of Americans employed in fishing there?—A. No; not a large, but a very small proportion is so engaged.

Q. In your long experience in the island, how many American vessels go there for the purpose of fishing?—A. Of vessels, scarcely any come there; but small open boats, of something like from 3 to 5 tons, come there occasionally from Eastport and Lubec.

Q. Then the herring fishery is exclusively a fishery in which the natives are engaged?—A. Yes; nearly altogether.

Q. Do you know whether the bulk of the smoked herring is sent from

there?—A. It mostly goes to Boston and New York. This year I think that it nearly all has gone there.

Q. How do they get to Boston and New York?—A. Vessels owned at the island are employed in this trade. I think that four vessels owned there are constantly running to those points, and occasionally a vessel is chartered in this trade.

Q. What sort of a trade, in the way of smoked herring, is done between Eastport and Grand Manan?—A. Small vessels and little vessels run over there from that place occasionally; and some of the smaller fishermen, perhaps, take their fish over in small boats.

Q. You know something about Eastport and its neighborhood?—A. Yes; I ran a packet there for four years.

Q. Do you know of any body of people—Americans—living along that coast, which depend for their livelihood on fishing in British waters?—A. No; not to depend on fishing in British waters; I do not.

Q. Have you been able to form anything like an estimate which you think is a just one concerning the value of the whole Grand Manan herring fishery, including the hake and pollack fisheries?—A. I should know this pretty well, as I am among the fishermen constantly.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. What is that paper which you have now in your hand?—A. It contains some notes which I have taken down.

Q. From where?—A. For Grand Manan.

Q. From what?—A. They concern the quantity of fish taken there.

Q. What did you take them from?—A. My own observation, and from the amount of fish shipped, and the quantity of hake sounds taken.

Q. When did you make them up?—A. Since I came here.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. Can you make your statement without using this paper?—A. Yes. There are about 10,000 quintals of hake taken, and about 8,000 quintals of codfish; about 400,000 boxes of herring are smoked on the average; about \$17,000 worth of frozen herring are shipped in winter; about 4,000 barrels of pickled herring—this is a large estimate—are shipped; and the catch of herring which are sold for bait, and other kinds of fish, such as lobsters, haddock, and pollack, &c., would aggregate in value probably to \$10,000.

Q. To the best of your judgment, what do you think that the Grand Manan fisheries are worth annually?—A. Well, to the natives alone?

Q. Yes.—A. I should say that \$150,000 a year would be a large estimate for the native fisheries.

Q. Do you know anything about the fisheries prosecuted on Campobello and Deer Islands and from thence to the main-land, and from Letite to Lapreau?—A. Of course I am not so intimately acquainted with this fishery as with the Grand Manan fishery; but I should say that the Campobello and Deer Island fishery would probably equal ours in value, and the fishery on the north shore, say from Letite to St. Andrew's, would probably come to something near the same sum.

Q. Suppose I were to tell you that in this fishery, from Letite and Lapreau on the mainland, and over at Grand Manan, there were caught annually fish valued at \$1,500,000 by British fishermen, and fish valued at \$1,500,000 by American fishermen, all in British waters, would you think that it would be a correct statement?—A. No; I would not.

Q. Have you any idea that such a thing could be true?—A. I think that the man who made that statement must have been mistaken.

Q. Do you know anything about Gloucester vessels coming down

stopping at Eastport, and going over to Grand Manan with Eastport fishermen and seines prepared to fish?—A. I never knew of a case of that kind in my life.

Q. Have you had some opportunity of knowing whether such could be the case?—A. Yes; because I am myself engaged in this fishery in winter. I have known them, however, bring some boats from Campbell in one or two instances.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. I suppose that you are not an American citizen?—A. I was born in Boston, and I have not been naturalized.

Q. Then you went when quite young to live at Grand Manan?—A. I think I was about 7 years old when my parents moved there.

Q. And you have lived there ever since?—A. Yes; I have been, however, in vessels on short trips.

Q. I suppose that your dealings are chiefly with the Americans?—A. No; I ran a packet for 4 years between Grand Manan and St. Andrew's; that was up two years ago.

Q. But your fishing transactions are mostly with Americans?—A. Yes; we deal mostly with them when selling our fish.

Q. The people who live on Grand Manan are ordinary white people and British subjects; you call them natives?—A. We call them so. They compare favorably, I suppose, with the fishing population generally in New Brunswick.

Q. You say that all the smoked herring which are caught chiefly go to New York?—A. Yes, and to Boston. Boston, probably, takes the larger share.

Q. How are they shipped?—A. In our own vessels mostly; 4 vessels, owned on the island, run constantly to those ports.

Q. Is there any particular trade between Grand Manan and Eastport, in these fish?—A. Yes; there is a small trade carried on by the poorer class of fishermen, with their small boats; they get more money for their fish by taking them to Eastport.

Q. And the better class of fishermen are engaged in the smoked and frozen herring business, and shipped directly to the States?—A. Many are not shipped by the natives; Gloucester vessels generally come there and buy them.

Q. Why do you persist in calling the inhabitants of the island natives?—A. I will call them either way to suit you. I call them natives because they are born there.

Q. What other fish are shipped by the inhabitants?—A. Hake are shipped.

Q. What about pickled fish?—A. There are not very many pickled fish shipped anywhere; there are not very many put up.

Q. I understood you to say that a quantity was put up?—A. Yes; 4,000 barrels.

Q. What are they worth a barrel—\$3, I suppose?—A. When you add the cost of barrel and salt, the cost may come pretty well up to that; these fish are generally sold fresh, and what is considered will make a barrel then brings \$1.25.

Q. I am speaking of these herring when put up: 4,000 barrels of pickled herring are put up at Grand Manan?—A. Yes.

Q. These must be worth at least \$3 a barrel?—A. Yes, when you add barrel and salt.

Q. I am speaking of them barreled as you sell them?—A. Well, \$2.75 is a large average price for unpickled fish.

Q. Are these herring sent to New York or Boston, or where?—A. They are sent all round the country more or less.

Q. Where are they sent?—A. Some few go to Boston; I know of some having been sent there this season; and some go to St. John, New Brunswick; and up to this year some have gone to Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

Q. Are many sent to Eastport?—A. Very few go there.

Q. I understand you to say that from Grand Manan itself very few fish of any kind are sent to Eastport, save a few caught by the poorer classes?—A. It makes in the aggregate, however, quite a considerable sum of money in value, because there are quite a number of poor fishermen.

Q. What is the value of fish thus sold?—A. I could not tell you exactly.

Q. But you come up to give the value of these fisheries?—A. I have given you the value of the fisheries, but I cannot go into the details; no man can.

Q. How do you make up the aggregate value without knowing the details?—A. I can make up the aggregate as to the fish caught. Take hake, for instance; I know the number of hake sounds which were brought there this year, and the number of quintals of these fish that have been taken; I know the number of sounds which so many quintals of fish will make.

Q. Do you know the number of quintals or quantity of fish that have been taken by poor people to Eastport?—A. I should say that not more than one-quarter of the fish that has been caught there has been taken to Eastport.

Q. Have 40 quintals been so taken?—A. I say not more than one-quarter of the whole quantity.

Q. Will you swear to one-quarter?—A. No, I would not.

Q. Will you swear that one-quarter does go there?—A. I give that as a rough estimate.

Q. Had you ever heard attention called to this matter at all before you came here?—A. No, not particularly; but I ran a packet there, and I then used to carry a good many fish as freight.

Q. If there is so little trade between Eastport and Grand Manan, how could a fish merchant in Eastport know, by reason of the business so done, what the extent of the trade of the island was?—A. Well, if he was intimately acquainted with Grand Manan fishermen he would probably ask them from time to time about it, as he saw them.

Q. For information only?—A. Probably so.

Q. If Eastport fishermen stated that the great bulk of the fish from Grand Manan passed through Eastport hands, would that be true?—A. This is not the case.

Q. Or anything like it?—A. No; of course not.

Q. You put the value of the whole catch around Grand Manan at \$150,000. I do not see how you get that, according to your figures. You put down 10,000 quintals hake; what are they worth?—A. About \$2.50 a quintal, as they are taken from the water; that price includes sounds and livers.

Q. That makes \$25,000?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you take 8,000 quintals of cod?—A. Yes.

Q. How much are they worth?—A. \$4 a quintal would be a large estimate.

Q. That is \$32,000?—A. Yes.

Q. Then there are \$10,000 worth of herring (used for bait) and miscellaneous fish?—A. Yes.

Q. Then there are \$17,000 worth of frozen herring?—A. Yes.

Q. What else is there?—A. The pickled herring.

Q. These 4,000 barrels would be worth, at the outside, \$12,000?—A. They are only estimated to be worth \$1.25 when sold fresh.

Q. What are the 400,000 boxes of smoked herring worth?—A. 15 cents a box would be a large estimate this year; that is rather above the regular price.

Q. That makes \$156,000; and you put down \$150,000 as the value of the whole catch of the island?—A. Yes; and I think it is a large estimate.

Q. A very large estimate?—A. I did not say very large, but large.

Q. You are making allowances, are you not?—A. I think that is a large estimate for the season.

Q. And you undertake to say that the Campobello and Deer Island fishery is worth about the same, though you know nothing about it?—A. I did not say so.

Q. You said you were not very well acquainted with it. Did you ever ascertain what their catch was?—A. I have been around those islands considerably, and been among their fishermen, and I know that they are not more successful than our fishermen.

Q. They may have a better catch?—A. I do not think it. I know that the best of their fishermen come a great deal over to Grand Manan for fish.

Q. You say that no American vessels come to Grand Manan to fish?—A. Very few indeed do so.

Q. When do they come; in the spring?—A. Well, they do not come at any particular season. When they hear of a school of fish about Grand Manan, a few vessels from Lubec and Eastport will run over.

Q. There is no such thing as a Gloucester fleet that comes down there in the spring or fall?—A. I never saw one. I never knew one vessel to come there from Gloucester and fish inshore.

Q. Where do they fish there?—A. Off on the Banks, and at different places.

Q. You have seen them fishing on the Banks?—A. They come there and get bait, and that is the last we see of them.

Q. They come to the Banks and get bait?—A. They come there and get bait.

Q. Where?—A. From there they go we do not know where.

Q. Where do they come for bait?—A. To Grand Manan. They do not catch the bait, but buy it.

Q. They never fish around the island, within three miles of the shore?—A. I have never seen any so fish.

Q. You have never known this to be done in your life?—A. I have never known a Gloucester vessel fish around Grand Manan.

Q. You never saw American vessels fishing around the island in your life?—A. Within three miles of the shore; no.

Q. Although you have lived there since you were 7 years old?—A. Yes.

Q. How old are you?—A. Forty-one.

Q. During all this time, 34 years, you have never seen an American vessel fishing within the three-mile limit?—A. I never saw one do so myself.

Q. I suppose that you never heard of one doing so?—A. I do not know as I ever did—that is, a Gloucester vessel.

Q. The boats do sometimes, I suppose, come over from the American coast to fish there?—A. Yes, but very few; these have always been small, open boats, with cuddies.

Q. Then the American people who live along the shores about Eastport and Lubec, and away on towards the westward, you say, do not send boats over there at all?—A. I did not say that they did not send them at all.

Q. But you say very few do so?—A. Small boats come over there from different places; there is not a very large fishing population on that coast.

Q. Why do they send boats over there, if they have good fishing on their own coast?—A. I do not know that they have; I did not say so.

Q. Do you think that they have good fishing on their own coast?—A. At certain seasons they may have a considerable herring fishery up that coast in the fall.

Q. In your judgment, is the herring fishery better on the American coast than it is around Grand Manan?—A. It is not so long. There is a body of herring which comes on the sea-coast along from Mount Desert to Cape Cod, to spawn, late in the fall; this is a very heavy body of fish, but they do not last a great while.

Q. They come on the American coast altogether?—A. They come on the American coast.

Q. In the neighborhood of Eastport?—A. No.

Q. Is there any good fishing at Eastport, and westward of Lubec?—A. Their fishing, I should think, is very poor there.

Q. With respect to all kinds of fish?—A. Yes; from Mount Desert to Eastport.

Q. In this quarter fishing of all kinds is poor?—A. Yes.

Q. You only put down 400 people as engaged in the Grand Manan fishery?—A. I think that is a large estimate—400 men engaged in fishing.

Q. Has it been your special business to find out how many quintals, barrels, and boxes of fish are taken at Grand Manan?—A. I judge in this regard by former years. I used to trade considerably. I bought nearly all the hake every season.

Q. Are the results of former years a good guide when the fisheries change every year?—A. We can tell that this year—5,000 pounds of sounds have been prepared.

Q. Do you buy the sounds?—A. No; but I am acquainted with the men that buy them, and I know how many pounds they buy.

Q. Where did you get the figures which you have on your paper, from?—A. I took them down from my memory.

Q. Why did you so put them down, if you took them from your memory?—A. I did so to refresh my memory.

Q. What object could you have in refreshing your memory, if it can enable you to put such figures down without looking at any papers?—A. If you examine the papers, you will find that I have made no mistakes.

Q. What did you take them down for?—A. To refresh my memory.

Q. From what paper?—A. I did not get them from any paper.

Q. Did you read any of the evidence which has been taken before the Commission, before you came here?—A. I read several of these depositions.

Q. Whose?—A. I read that of Walter McLaughlin.

Q. Do you know Walter McLaughlin?—A. Yes; I am acquainted with him.

Q. Is he a respectable man?—A. Yes; very.

Q. He is fish warden there?—A. Yes.

Q. He goes around and collects information from the inhabitants as to the quantity of fish taken?—A. I have heard of him doing so in years past.

Q. Is he a truthful man and well spoken of where you are?—A. He never told me a lie that I know of.

Q. Have you ever been on the mainland at all?—A. I have.

Q. Have you ever been in the neighborhood of where Mr. James R. McLean carries on business?—A. I have been up there occasionally.

Q. How long since you last were there?—A. I came by there in the steamer the other day.

Q. I don't mean coming by in the steamer, but when were you there?—A. I don't know that I have been there for two years on shore.

Q. Were you ever at his place of business?—A. Never, I think.

Q. Where is his place of business?—A. Letite and Back Bay.

Q. How long since you were last at Back Bay?—A. I never was ashore in Back Bay in my life.

Q. Were you ever ashore anywhere from St. George to Lepreau?—A. Yes.

Q. Where?—A. I have been ashore at Beaver Harbor.

Q. Is Beaver Harbor a large fishing place?—A. They have some vessels.

Q. How long would you stay there?—A. I went into harbor there.

Q. You went into harbor? Is that the extent of your knowledge of the mainland?—A. No. I am acquainted with McLean and with a number of fishermen that belong over on that shore.

Q. From your personal knowledge? Have you any personal knowledge apart from what you may have acquired talking to these people?—A. I have quite a knowledge of how many are engaged in the fishing, and I know they are not more successful than our own fishermen.

Q. How long since you last were there on the mainland?—A. Well, it has been, I suppose, two years.

Q. You know McLean?—A. I know McLean, not intimately. I am acquainted with him. I have met him at Eastport, and at our own place this summer.

Q. Did you ever talk to him?—A. Yes.

Q. I suppose it is possible he is as well informed as to the value of the fisheries on the mainland as you are?—A. He may be.

Q. Probably better?—A. He probably has his idea and I have mine.

Q. That is not the question. I ask you whether he is any better able to give an opinion as to the value of the fisheries on the mainland than you?—A. He may be better able.

Q. Have you any doubt that he has better means of information than you?—A. I don't know that he has better means.

Q. Although he resides there and carries on business there?—A. Well, there is a large extent of coast. He is located at one place, and he is as far from the extremes as I am.

Q. What part of the coast of the mainland have you any acquaintance with there?—A. Deer Island and Campobello.

Q. Do you call Deer Island a part of the mainland?—A. Well, St. Andrew's; I have run a packet there three or four years.

Q. And running a packet would give you a knowledge of the fishing business, you think. When did you stop running the packet?—A. I have not run it for two years.

Q. How long were you running it before that?—A. Four years.

Q. For the last two years you have stopped?—A. Yes.

Q. And the only means of information you have as to the fisheries at St. Andrew's is that you have run a packet between Grand Manan and St. Andrew's?—A. Yes; and bought fish while I was running.

Q. What other places have you knowledge of?—A. What other places do you want a knowledge of?

Q. I want you to tell me what knowledge you have. I should want you to have a knowledge of the whole mainland before you come here to contradict other witnesses.—A. Do these witnesses have a knowledge of the whole mainland?

Q. Those who have given evidence have. What other places do you know between St. Andrew's and the headwaters?—A. With the whole of St. Croix River I am more or less acquainted. St. Stephen.

Q. St. Stephen is not a fishing place at all.—A. If you will name any particular place.

Q. If you have a knowledge of the mainland, you are better able to name them than I.—A. I have told you I was not very well acquainted with Back Bay.

Q. Are you acquainted at all with the fisheries at Back Bay?—A. I am acquainted with the fishermen.

Q. Then you put your opinion as regards the mainland fisheries against the opinion of James R. McLean, do you, or Mr. Lord?—A. I have nothing to do with Mr. McLean's opinion whatever. I give my own opinion. I did not come here to come in conflict with any other man's opinion, but simply to give my opinion for what it is worth, to the best of my knowledge.

Q. And you admit that your means of knowledge can't possibly be so good as those of a man who is engaged in business on the mainland?—A. They are as to Grand Manan.

Q. I don't mean that.—A. Why do you confine yourself to the mainland?

Q. Because that is part of what you spoke of, and I cannot refer to half a dozen things at once. I will come to Grand Manan in a minute.—A. I didn't give the mainland so accurately. I said I thought it was so.

Q. You said a person was mistaken if he would undertake to say—
A. I say that if he would undertake to say it was so large he was mistaken.

Q. You put that opinion against men who have been engaged on the mainland?—A. If I had time I could prove it.

Q. Do you swear that your means of information in reference to the mainland fisheries are as good as the means of information of persons engaged on the mainland in these fisheries?—A. I don't know that I have any business to swear to any such thing at all. I didn't come here for that.

Q. If any person came here to swear that the fishery around Grand Manan was worth \$500,000, or \$350,000 more than you put it at, that is beyond all reason according to you?—A. Well, I can't figure it out where they get it.

Q. Do you say it is beyond reason?—A. I should say it was.

Q. You say it is beyond all reason to put it at \$500,000?—A. I do. There are 400 men; and if they catch \$1,250 worth of fish a year, each man—some men are not very fortunate fishing; some would catch \$500 and others would have to catch \$2,000—then it is most successful fishing on this coast or anywhere else I know of.

Q. Any man who swears that, in your judgment, must either be will-

fully stating what is false, or else has not the means of information?—

A. I have nothing to say of anybody else's statements.

Q. Did you see that some of the American fishermen had themselves put it at five hundred thousand dollars a year?—A. No.

Q. Wouldn't it have altered your views if you had?—A. No; my views are fixed.

Q. They were fixed before you came?—A. I didn't come to make any mistatements.

Q. Where did you read the evidence?—A. Some of it in the other room.

Q. Whose evidence did you read?—A. McLaughlin's and McLean's, and part of Fisher's.

Q. Did you read Lord's?—A. No.

Q. Have you read Fisher's?—A. I read part of it.

Q. Now, Fisher says, in answer to Mr. Trescot—I suppose he has a knowledge of the island, has he?—A. He should; he has fished there a considerable many years.

Q. He is asked, "What would be the annual value of the fishery at Grand Manan, taking the opposite coast, and taking the neighborhood generally, from your experience as a man of business with some practical acquaintance with the operations yourself as a merchant? What would be the annual value, including Grand Manan and the coast from Letite to St. Andrew's and Lepreau?" And he answers: "I should set the value of the fish caught at Grand Manan at not over \$400,000. They might go \$500,000, but I think if I had \$500,000 I would have some left."—A. I should think he would.

Q. You see he puts it at \$500,000?—A. He says "not over \$400,000."

Q. He says it might go \$500,000. Do you mean to say that he would state it was not over \$400,000, and it might go \$500,000, when it was only \$150,000? Would he cover that meaning with those words?—A. I have nothing to do with any other man's statement here. If what I say conflicts with any other man's statement it is not my fault.

Q. You won't give any judgment upon that point?—A. I have nothing to say.

Q. Well, why did you answer Mr. Trescot when he put questions to you as to other persons coming here and making particular statements?

Mr. TRESCOT. I did not do it.

Mr. THOMSON. You said you would not give him any particular names, but if persons came here and swore that such and such was the case, you asked him if that would be correct.

Mr. TRESCOT. Quite so.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. Then Mr. Fisher is entirely astray according to you?—A. His statement is large.

Q. What is the extent of your business? You say you kept a hotel during the summer and fished in the winter. Where did you fish whenever you went?—A. For herring?

Q. Yes. What is the extent of your catch?—A. Well, I could not say exactly—I never kept any minutes—but I might have got \$200 worth for my share.

Q. Is that the extent of your fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, there is Mr. Lakeman. Do you know him?—A. Yes; I am well acquainted with him.

Q. This question is put to him:

Q. How much do these several totals make?—A. \$133,450.

Q. Think a little, and think what you meant by telling us a few minutes ago that,

in your opinion, the value of the catch of the fisheries of Grand Manan Island only amounted to \$50,000 or at the most to \$60,000?—A. \$500,000 I meant; did I say \$50,000? If I did, that was a slip of the tongue, and if I said \$60,000 I meant \$600,000.

Q. That is the annual proceeds of the Grand Manan fisheries?—A. No; the value of the hake-sounds is yet to be considered.

He puts it down at \$500,000 without the hake sounds. You think that is quite wild?—A. I think you must have confused him.

Q. No. This was Mr. Trescot examining him?—A. I think his head was not clear.

Q. He was entirely wrong about that?—A. I think the statement was wild when he says \$500,000 or \$600,000.

MR. TRESCOT. Didn't he try afterward to give the items and find that he could not bring them over \$160,000?

MR. THOMSON. Did you bring this gentleman to show that Lakeman was entirely wrong?

Q. Then you say you catch \$200 worth in the course of a year? Do you buy any?—A. I am not engaged in buying at present. I have bought.

Q. How long since you were last engaged in buying?—A. When I was running a packet I bought more or less.

Q. For the purpose of cooking in your vessel?—A. No; to sell again.

Q. How many would you buy?—A. I never kept any minutes of what I bought or sold. I don't know what bearing it has on this subject.

Q. Just this. That you were pleased to state in answer to Mr. Trescot that you engaged in buying and selling. I want to see to what extent you bought and sold. You got two or three barrels of fish and sold them at St. Andrew's?—A. No; we sold them at Eastport. It would glut the market at St. Andrew's.

Q. Do you make the statement that two or three barrels would glut the market at St. Andrew's? That is a town of 3,000 or 4,000 inhabitants, and yet you say it would glut the market?—A. I say we sold them at Eastport.

Q. How many did you sell?—A. I never kept any record of what I sold.

Q. Can you swear to 50 barrels?—A. I can't swear to any particular quantity.

Q. Will you swear you sold as many as 50?—A. I will swear I have sold as many as that.

Q. And what did you catch those herring for, those you fished yourself?—A. I caught them to sell.

Q. When you say you fished in winter, did you make a business of it?—A. We went fishing in winter.

Q. You say "we." Are you speaking of yourself personally?—A. We generally fish in company there; two or three boats fishing.

Q. And your share amounted to \$200, probably, a year, and with this experience you come and say that the fishery is only worth \$150,000, and that you have lived there 34 years, and yet during all that time you never saw an American vessel fishing around Grand Manan.—A. I said a Gloucester vessel.

Q. I put the question to you whether you had seen an American vessel.

MR. DANA. And every time he answered he confined his answer to Gloucester vessels.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. You told me in so many words that during that whole time no American vessel fished within the limits, and that you never heard of

it.—A. I said Gloucester vessels. You asked me if there was not a large fleet of Gloucester vessels.

Q. I asked you as to American vessels.—A. As I understood, you referred to the Gloucester fleet; if there was not a large Gloucester fleet that came down.

Q. Then I understand you now to admit that American vessels, not from Gloucester, do come?—A. I said a few small vessels and boats.

Q. What do you call a few small vessels? Just exclude the boats from your mind altogether.—A. Well, perhaps there might be a dozen. There might be a dozen vessels from Lubec.

Q. At one time?—A. Yes.

Q. Fishing?—A. Fishing off and on. Sometimes they would set nets for bait and go away off.

Q. Would they fish within three miles?—A. They would not cod-fish within three miles.

Q. That is an evasion. Who asked about cod-fishing?—A. I said they set their nets inshore and took bait.

Q. Would they fish within three miles?—A. No; they would only set their nets for bait to catch line-fish.

Q. That is what the Gloucester vessels did, didn't they?—A. No. I never knew Gloucester vessels set nets to catch bait for themselves.

Q. How many Gloucester vessels come down to catch bait?—A. It is hard to average. Some years more and some years less.

Q. What season is it that they come down?—A. Along early in the spring they begin to come, after the frozen season is over, and along through the winter occasionally a vessel.

Q. How many would come down at one time?—A. I may have seen ten vessels lying at one time—never more than that that I recollect.

Q. Will you swear you have not seen as many as 25 or 30?—A. I would be quite safe in swearing so, I think.

Q. Is ten the largest number you are certain of?—A. Ten is the largest number I think.

Q. How long would they remain?—A. It depended upon the bait.

Q. Did they come in and give their orders for bait?—A. They came in and tried to engage a boat.

Q. Did they tell each fisherman or a number of fishermen how many barrels they wanted?—A. Yes.

Q. And then these fishermen tried to catch bait for them?—A. Yes.

Q. They would come down in fleets of ten at a time?—A. I said ten was as many as I had seen.

Q. And their place would be supplied with ten more when they went away?—A. Well, it might happen once in the year that there were ten. I said they came down quite early in the spring.

Q. Didn't you tell me a while ago that you never heard of the Gloucester fleet coming down there at all?—A. No; I said not to fish.

Q. You didn't swear to me that you never heard of the Gloucester fleet coming down to Grand Maun?—A. I said fishing.

Q. Is there not a certain fleet that comes down there and is well known to come down there?—A. I have known as high probably as ten.

Q. Do they come down every year?—A. They come down every year.

Q. Is that known as the Gloucester fishing-fleet among the inhabitants of Grand Maun?—A. It is known as the Gloucester fleet as far as it goes.

Q. And these vessels come in, and the skippers engage the inhabitants to fish for them and supply them as fast as possible?—A. Yes.

Q. How much do they pay a barrel?—A. So much a hundred generally.

No. 76.

JOSEPH ROWE, of Gloucester, Mass., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Foster :

Question. Your name is Joseph. There is a Samuel Rowe in Gloucester?—Answer. Yes; he is a brother of mine.

Q. You belong to the firm of Rowe & Jordan?—A. Yes.

Q. You were born in Gloucester?—A. Yes.

Q. How old are you?—A. Fifty-two, come December.

Q. In early life you were a fisherman for a good many years?—A. It was always my business, fishing, from a boy.

Q. What was the first year you were in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. 1836.

Q. How many years have you been there, in all, for mackerel?—A. Twenty-one.

Q. When were you first a skipper in the gulf?—A. In 1848.

Q. From 1848 how many continuous years did you go as skipper in the gulf?—A. Sixteen.

Q. Ending in what year?—A. 1864.

Q. In 1864 you ceased to go to sea?—A. Yes.

Q. What firm did you go into?—A. Rowe & Smith.

Q. How long were you in that?—A. Three years.

Q. Then in 1867 what did you establish? Your present firm?—A. That would be 1868.

Q. How many vessels has your firm usually had?—A. We have had from eight to thirteen.

Q. I believe when you were in the gulf you were one of the successful ones?—A. Well, yes; I always got a good voyage.

Q. Take the last year you were there; how many mackerel did you get?—A. One thousand one hundred barrels.

Q. In two trips?—A. Well, we went two trips; we sent home one of them, and took the other home ourselves.

Q. Where were those 1,100 caught?—A. They were all caught at the Magdalens, except 100 barrels, or a little over 100—103, I think.

Q. Where were those caught?—A. At Margaree, and from Margaree to Mabou.

Q. How long were you taking these 103 barrels?—A. One day.

Q. How near shore?—A. Well, we commenced about three miles, as near as I can recollect; but we went nearer than that, not over a mile.

Q. That day's fishing was inshore?—A. All inshore.

Q. What month was it in?—A. In October.

Q. Now, without dwelling in detail upon your seventeen years' experience as skipper, I want to know where your chief fishing-grounds were during those seventeen years?—A. My chief fishing-ground was in the Magdalens, although I have got trips in the bend of the island, and I have gone on the Banks Bradley and Orphan. Early trips always on Bradley and Orphan, and poor mackerel.

Q. Do you mean early in the summer?—A. Early in the spring.

Q. Where did you get the best mackerel?—A. The best mackerel in the latter years was at the Magdalens, although I have caught as good in the bend of the island as I have ever caught anywhere, and I have caught as good at Cape Breton as ever anywhere.

Q. At what particular place at the Magdalens did you get the best mackerel?—A. Bird Rock, I believe, was the best I would say anywhere. I suppose Bird Rock mackerel were a little ahead, but not a great deal of these mackerel are caught there.

Q. What mackerel are there anywhere that compare with the Bird Rock mackerel?—A. Block Island mackerel are the only mackerel I ever saw.

Q. But, except that, Bird Rock is as good as you have ever seen?—A. There is but very few of that kind anywhere, but there were more at Block Island than at Bird Rock.

Q. Now, explain as to your fishing in the bend of the island. How much fishing have you done there, and at what distance from the shore have you generally fished?—A. I don't remember ever catching any mackerel of any account nearer than from six to seven miles, although I might have caught a few. We always went in and came out of harbors, but I never thought of heaving to and trying for them until we were six or eight miles off.

Q. What is the difficulty fishing within three miles of the bend of the island with a vessel?—A. Well, I never found any difficulty in fishing in, if the mackerel were there, but the mackerel is scattered, what there is there. There is no body of them. There are more outside.

Q. How far out do you go to get a body of mackerel large enough to make it pay a vessel to fish?—A. From six to fifteen miles. Fifteen miles just the rise of the land, so that you can just see New London Head. That is a better fishing ground than anywhere else around the island. We always made New London Head our mark.

Q. How high is the land at New London Head?—A. Not very high, but it shows more prominently than the other land around. You can see that further than the land on each side of it.

Q. Well, how many years do you suppose of the sixteen or seventeen you were skipper did you fish in the bend of the island?—A. Well, I never fished the whole year through. I suppose I fished more or less there for six or seven years. I could not say just the number of years.

Q. Have you ever fished up Bay Chaleurs?—A. No; I never caught ten barrels there in my life.

Q. Have you been up there?—A. Twice only.

Q. Did you try for fish?—A. I tried both times I went.

Q. But unsuccessfully?—A. I never thought much of it.

Q. Have you ever fished up the Gulf of St. Lawrence, off Seven Islands, so called?—A. I have been there one year.

Q. When was that? Do you remember what year it was?—A. Well, I think it was in 1862.

Q. What did you succeed in doing up by the Seven Islands in 1862?—A. I caught 180 barrels. We were off Fox River, on the opposite side, on the south side of the gulf.

Q. How near inshore?—A. We caught 80 barrels within a quarter of a mile of land.

Q. The rest, how far out?—A. The others fifteen miles off, right off into the gulf; that is, I think about that. The land is very high. We might have been further, but we were wide out.

Q. What is the width across there?—A. I think it is about, I should judge, sixty or seventy miles.

Q. From Seven Islands across to what point?—A. To Fox River. (Witness consults map, and points out the places where the fish were caught.)

Q. How many have you caught in the vicinity of Seven Islands?—A. I never caught any there.

Q. In what places in the gulf, so far as you know, are the most mackerel caught within three miles of the shore?—A. About Cape Breton, as far as my experience goes.

Q. Near what point?—A. From Mabou to Margaree is the best place.

Q. At what part of the season do they catch these there?—A. I never went there to fish until October.

Q. How long did you ever stop there?—A. Never long at one time. The mackerel strike there; they may be plenty to-day and gone to-morrow.

Q. That is where you got your 103 barrels in 1864?—A. Yes; that filled me up.

Q. How many mackerel, on an average, must a Gloucester vessel take before there is a profit to the vessel? I understand that this is a question that does not admit of a definite answer, but I want to draw out your opinion.—A. It is hard to determine. There is some difference in the prices.

Q. Yes, there is a difference in the price and quality.—A. There is also a difference in the bills; but if we don't get 400 barrels we don't calculate we are going to do much.

Q. You were in the Gulf of St. Lawrence most of the time during the Reciprocity Treaty, and you were there a number of years before. I suppose you knew about the cutters and the driving off of the fishermen that came within 3 miles?—A. Yes.

Q. You were not there during the license seasons, because you left in 1864. Now, what is your view as to the importance of the restriction against fishing within 3 miles to the United States fishermen?—A. What was that?

Q. How much consequence, in your judgment, is the prohibition to fish within the 3-mile limit to the United States fishermen?—A. Well, if I was going myself, I should not consider it anything worth paying for; but as I am situated now, I think I should be willing to pay, perhaps, 50 cents a ton.

Q. What is the difference between going yourself and sending your captains?—A. We have skippers that sometimes go in and try when there is no occasion for it. If they try and are taken, it is just as bad as if they caught fish. If I went myself, I would not be running that risk.

Q. You think you could fish successfully without going within 3 miles?—A. I do.

Q. Now, your present firm, organized in 1868, has had about how many vessels fishing for mackerel; did you say?—A. Well, we had some years more and some years less.

Q. Have you a statement? By the way, I want to know if you brought any books from home?—A. No.

Q. Any memoranda that you have made up here?—A. I have only memoranda for the last two or three years in the bay. In 1874 we had four in the bay.

Q. What did they do?—A. They got 1,847 barrels.

Q. How many had you on our shore?—A. Five.

Q. What did they do?—A. They got 3,044.

Q. Go on to 1875.—A. We had one in the bay and got 153 barrels. We had four on our shores, and got 3,784 barrels. In 1876 we had none in the bay. On our shore we had five, and got 5,578.

Q. Were those seiners?—A. All seiners.

Q. In 1877 how many have you had in the bay?—A. We have had four.

Q. Now, tell me how you happen to have sent them to the gulf this year after your better experience on our shores and poor experience in the bay for the two previous years?—A. Well, our vessels went south early in the season to run fresh mackerel to New York. The mackerel were plenty, and they expected a big catch; but in June, when we ought to have caught them, we caught none, and reports came down that the mackerel were plenty this way. We therefore supposed they had passed into the gulf.

Q. What do you mean by reports coming?—A. Well, we got word from the strait. We had no letters, but we always hear, and as a matter of fact there was mackerel here in June, and those that came down early got trips of mackerel, poor mackerel. But when our vessel got down they were gone, and they have been scarce ever since.

Q. Let me see what your vessels have done this year.—A. The Helen M. Crosby took eight barrels. She was in something over a fortnight. She had gone in and tried all around the bay and found there was nothing; came out and fished on our shores.

Q. Did she have any better luck there?—A. Yes; she packed out 750 barrels before I came away, besides what she got in the bay.

Q. What other schooner?—A. The Golden Hind. She came in just before I came away, with 75 barrels.

Q. How long was she getting these?—A. About eight weeks.

Q. What other vessels?—A. The Herbert M. Rogers and the Barra-couta. They are not at home. I heard the Barra-couta had 100, and the other 215.

Q. How long has the Herbert M. Rogers been in the gulf?—A. He wrote the day before the breeze. They had a gale down there. I think it was the 22d of September.

Q. How long has she been in the gulf?—A. I think about five weeks.

Q. Has she got back?—A. No; she hadn't got home when I left, but at last accounts she had a little over 200 barrels.

Q. Now, are the seines successful in the gulf?—A. They never have been. I don't think they can seine there to make it pay.

Q. Did these vessels of yours go prepared to seine?—A. The Helen M. Crosby and the Herbert M. Rogers carried seines. The Herbert M. Rogers never set hers at all. That is, the skipper by letter said the seine was no good, and he went down to Souris and landed it.

Q. And caught his fish with hook and line?—A. Yes.

Q. Why are not seines successful in the gulf?—A. Well, the water is shoal and the bottom rough. There are several causes. If you go off in deep water on Bradley or Orphan there are a great many herring that get mixed up with the mackerel. They mesh in the seine, and it takes so long to pick them out. They die and sink the seine.

Q. Something has been said about making shoal seines, to adapt them to the gulf fishing.—A. Well, they can catch a few that way, but it is pretty hard to catch mackerel in a shoal seine, that is, the purse-seine.

Q. How much importance do you attach, as a man engaged in the fishing business, to the mackerel fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence now?—A. Well, I don't think much of it. It has gone down. It used to be worth something once, but of late years we don't think anything of it at all. We could do about as well without seining there.

Q. What proportion of your business is mackerel and what proportion is codfish?—A. Well, I should say one-third of the proceeds is mackerel and two-thirds codfish.

Q. In money value?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever sent to Grand Manan vessels for herring?—A. We have sent once or twice.

Q. Did they go to catch fish, or how did they get them?—A. They always bought them. We always sent the money.

Q. Did they go with any preparation for fishing?—A. Not any at all. We never thought of such a thing.

Q. Have you ever been yourself or sent a vessel to Newfoundland for herring?—A. I have been once myself and sent some two or three winters.

Q. How were the herring procured there?—A. They were always bought. We never made preparations to fish.

Q. Well, were you ever personally engaged in halibut fishing?—A. Yes. I used to go to the George's Banks a good many years.

Q. How far are the George's Banks from Seal Island?—A. 70 miles, as near as I can recollect.

Q. How near Seal Island can you go?—A. I have been two or three trips when I could just see the light, on a clear night. Right on the edge of the ground, right on the falling-off, there is where the halibut used to be taken when I was there. But I don't think there is any there now. It was broken up. It didn't last but three or four years when I was there.

Q. Then you don't consider it a fishing ground, even 15 miles from Seal Island Light? Did you ever fish within three miles for halibut?—A. Never.

Q. How many halibut fishers are there from Gloucester?—A. 28, I believe. The number shifts a little. I think two or three more have been added.

Q. How recently have you built a fishing schooner in Gloucester or had one built?—A. We had one built last winter.

Q. When was she completed?—A. In April, I think.

Q. Now what was the size, and what was the cost?—A. She was 74 tons, new measurement.

Q. Register, I suppose?—A. 110 carpenters'.

Q. What did she cost?—A. A little over \$7,200.

Q. In bargaining for building a schooner, you bargain to pay by carpenters' measurement?—A. Yes.

Q. How much a ton, carpenters' measurement?—A. Well, it differs; \$45 to \$47 a ton.

Q. But you must have paid more for this?—A. You have to rig it afterwards. That is simply for the hull. We paid \$4,950 for her. We never reckon by the ton. We give the dimensions, what we want, and they give us the figures what they will build her for.

Q. What does that include?—A. The hull and spars.

Q. Was that as low as a vessel that size, first class, could be built this year in Gloucester?—A. Yes, sir; it was. They might since that, perhaps, build for a dollar less on the ton. Perhaps a difference of \$200 might be made in the whole cost. They might build a vessel that size now for \$7,000.

Q. Do you know the quality of the schooners built here in the province?—A. Yes; I think I do.

Q. How many new schooners built here have you seen? Have you seen the best built here within a year or two?—A. No.

Q. You would know whether they have altered materially or not?—A. They are generally built of what we call hard wood, that is, fishing-

vessels; of course they have soft-wood vessels, too. They build of beech or birch.

Q. What are the Gloucester vessels built of?—A. White oak mostly, and gray oak.

Q. How much difference in the tonnage would you estimate in the cost of a Gloucester and a provincial vessel, such as you have referred to?—A. I suppose a provincial vessel, in the best way it could be built—we always calculate one of our vessels twelve years old is as good as one of theirs new of the same tonnage, and I guess every one else, vessel owners that know, will say the same. I don't know.

Q. What do you say about the demand for salt mackerel in the market within the past few years, compared with what it used to be?—A. It has fallen off a great deal.

Q. Why?—A. Well, there are different opinions, different reasons. Some lay it to the lake-fishing, the whitefish.

Q. What do you know about the quantities of these?—A. Well, I don't know anything by experience only what I hear said by the dealers out there. They tell me, those that have gone out there from our place and are in the business, that a great many are caught and that they are sold cheap, and take the place of mackerel unless mackerel are low.

Q. At what price per barrel can a large quantity of salt mackerel be disposed of freely in the market?—A. Well, they don't go very readily.

Q. Until they are down to \$7?—A. Well, that is a large amount.

Q. Sold from where?—A. From our place. That is about what they ranged last year, and they went off very well. This year they went up to \$12, and were very scarce, and the market dragged. Finally, they went down to \$9.50.

Q. Why will not the people buy them at the high prices?—A. I don't know any reason unless they get these lake fish cheaper.

Q. What quantity of high-priced mackerel, extra No. 1's, mess mackerel of the very best quality, costing \$20 a barrel, can be disposed of in the United States markets?—A. Well, I have no way of knowing, but I should not think over from 8,000 to 10,000 barrels. I don't know as that many. I could not tell how many.

Q. Where is the market for the consumption of the very best mackerel, the highest priced, chiefly?—A. Philadelphia takes the best mackerel, most of them.

Q. In what direction do the poorer qualities go?—A. I could not tell. I have never sent any. We always sell our fish at home. I suppose they scatter all over the country and in the Western countries.

Q. How do the sales of fresh mackerel compare of late years with what they used to be?—A. That has increased. It increases every year.

Q. What would you estimate to be the annual value of the fresh mackerel consumed in the United States?—A. I don't know that I could give a very good estimate. Somewhere from three to four hundred thousand barrels, I should think.

Q. How is it about salt codfish?—A. That has improved. They catch more fish and they go off readily at fair prices.

Q. Do you know how far West the fresh fish from the seaboard goes?—A. Well, I don't know. I have no way of knowing, but I think they send them to Chicago in the winter season; as far as that.

Q. We have evidence of their going further than that.—A. Well, I never shipped any fresh fish.

Q. Taking the corresponding qualities of bay and shore mackerel, which, for the last few years, has sold at the higher prices?—A. Well, our shore mackerel has brought the best price for the last number of

years. The mackerel has been poor in the bay, poorer than it used to be, for the last four, five, or six years.

Q. What effect in your judgment would the imposition of a duty of \$2 a barrel on all grades of mackerel imported from the provinces have upon the market in the United States?—A. Well, I suppose it would have the effect of lowering them some. It is pretty hard to determine. I don't know that I should say. Of course you put so many more mackerel into the market they would not fetch so much.

Q. Who would have to pay the duty? Would it come out of the people that eat it or out of the provincial sellers?—A. I should say out of the provincial sellers.

Q. Why—what makes you think so?—A. We take the most mackerel, and our mackerel determines the price.

Q. Don't you think they could raise the price of theirs and yours all around?—A. No; I don't think it could be done, because we have the most fish.

Q. Well, if a duty of a dollar a barrel were imposed on herring, do you think it could be imported?—A. No; I don't think it could. It is a low-priced fish.

Q. Have you ever known mixed trips of cod and mackerel where a vessel went out to catch whichever it could and brought back part of a cargo of each kind?—A. Well, I don't know that I ever knew. I have heard of some tell about going some years half and half, but I guess it never amounted to much.

Q. Has any such thing happened from Gloucester?—A. I haven't heard of one for a great many years.

Q. What has been the course of their fishing down in Massachusetts compared with Gloucester; have they increased or decreased?—A. They have decreased.

Q. The business has concentrated in Gloucester?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. Are you a protectionist or free-trader in principle?—A. A free-trader.

Q. Do you believe in free trade?—A. I do. I think there ought to be free trade all over the world.

Q. You think so?—A. Yes; I would like to see it so.

Q. In your own country are you a free-trader or a protectionist?—A. Well, as far as fish goes?

Q. No; generally.—A. Well, I am a protectionist, if that is the case, unless it would be all over the whole world.

Q. I notice in your statement that the prices of the mackerel seem to fluctuate a great deal. Last year it was \$7. This year it was \$12 for No. 2. In explaining that you said it was on account of the catch being very small this year?—A. Yes.

Q. I suppose the price is governed by the catch, whatever the catch is?—A. That is it.

Q. Well, for this year, I saw a statement in the Monetary Times yesterday morning that the whole catch this year did not amount to 50,000 barrels on your coast. Is that correct?—A. I have no way of knowing, but I should not think it was that much, if I was going to guess on it; but the vessels have been coming in since.

Q. Well, that is a very small catch, indeed?—A. Yes; that is small for late years.

Q. Now, I suppose if a large catch was made in the bay, and if your vessels were excluded altogether from the best fishing-grounds in the

bay, and the catch on your coast was very small, as it is this year, in an exceptional case like that the duty would be paid by the consumer, because the price would go up?—A. Well, if you had all the mackerel, of course.

Q. Well, if the statement was true that three-fourths of the mackerel that are taken out of the gulf are taken within the limits, that would have an appreciable effect upon the question who paid the duty?—A. I think it would.

Q. It is just a question of fact?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, you say a Gloucester vessel twelve years old is as good as a provincial vessel new. How long do those vessels last? They must last a very good length of time.—A. Well, we lose a great many, but we have vessels thirty and forty years old.

Q. I suppose thirty years old would not be beyond the average length she ought to last?—A. If she was not lost. Yes, sir; they will last that time and longer.

Q. You said, of late years there were no vessels fishing cod and halibut promiscuously, but it used to be so?—A. I said fishing cod and mackerel promiscuously.

Q. A gentleman said yesterday there was about 100 vessels of the cod-fishing fleet that were accustomed to take more or less halibut. I think it was Mr. Pew. He said 31 vessels devoted themselves exclusively to halibut-fishing, and a hundred of the cod-fishers took occasional catches of halibut?—A. This is right. They go with ice and bait and get both.

Q. On the Seal Island ground you have never been in fishing close to the shore?—A. No.

Q. You can't tell what is taken there?—A. I could not tell anything about it; but we never knew anything about its being a fishing-ground. Never thought of such a thing. I could not say there was none, but if there was I could not tell where any came from.

Q. I presume they came from the sea?—A. I mean the vessels.

Q. How many years since you have been there?—A. I haven't been there since 1852 or 1853, 1854 and 1855. I was only there one or two trips, but before I left the halibut all broke up there.

Q. I think you would not care about saying what the fact is now?—A. No; any more than that I know where our own vessels go.

Q. You don't profess to know where the 31 halibut-fishers go every year, do you?—A. Yes; I know where the other vessels go as well as my own.

Q. Well, do you know where the 100 that catch both cod and halibut go?—A. Yes; they go to the Georges.

Q. I am not speaking of what your general belief is, but now you are giving evidence as to your knowledge.—A. Well, we send them to the Georges, and they come back and say they have been to the Georges, and tell me what part of the Bank they have fished on, in how deep water, and all that. I am as familiar with the Bank as they are.

Q. Do you know anything of the New London vessels? Do you know where they go?—A. No, I don't know anything about them.

Q. I just want to know if you would contradict a witness who lived on the spot where we say the halibut is caught and who said he saw them caught there?—A. No.

Q. You haven't been personally in the Newfoundland herring business yourself?—A. No. Only one trip.

Q. You have given a statement of what vessels you have had in the bay last year as compared with the shore. I notice a great many of

these statements have been made up referring to late years. Can you give me a statement of what your vessels have done in the gulf during the continuance of the Reciprocity Treaty, what the catch was, and what vessels you have had, and a similar statement as to your shores for that period?—A. No, I haven't got it.

Q. Would you say, as an experienced man, that the catch on your shores was as great during the Reciprocity Treaty as in the bay?—A. No, sir; because there was not so many vessels went into it. There might be some years.

Q. Take them through, from '54 to '66, the catch in the bay during those years you acknowledge to be larger?—A. I think it was. I think there were more vessels went there.

Q. Could not you give me a statement of the returns of your vessels; could you make it up and send it to me?—A. Yes; I could take it from the books at home.

Q. What was your average catch during Reciprocity?—A. Well, I have not been fishing since 1864.

Q. You went before that. What years have you statements for?—A. I have from 1848 down to 1864. In 1854 I made two trips and got 500 barrels; in 1855, about 500 barrels—I can't recollect what we took the first trip; in 1856, 450 barrels; in 1857, 900 barrels in three trips; in 1858, 625 barrels; in 1859, 470 barrels; in 1860, 325 barrels; in 1861, 700 barrels.

Q. You have omitted some years?—A. No.

Q. Give me quantity for 1862.—A. I gave you 1861 last. In 1862 we got 450 barrels; in 1863, 1,140 barrels; in 1864, 1,100 barrels. That was my last trip. That was in the bay.

Q. On the whole you were a successful fisherman during those years, and, judging from the evidence we have had, you must have made money. Your catches were large.—A. Yes, I always had a good catch.

Q. In 1849, by this (referring to memorandum), you were in your own shore?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, you don't give the result in this paper?—A. No; I did not put it down.

Q. What was it?—A. I think between 800 and 900 barrels. That was a good year. I was high liner. I did well. I went on the shore next year, till the 10th of October. I made one trip in 1850, I think it was. There was mackerel on our shore the first of the year and didn't seem to be any in the fall. I went down late into the bay.

Q. Then, after 1864, you retired and went into business?—A. Yes.

Q. Now you say you never fished much in the Bay Chaleurs?—A. Never but twice.

Q. You know it of course as a fishing-ground to which the fleet resorted at times?—A. Yes, I have heard of fish being caught there.

Q. Frequently heard?—A. Yes. I knew it was a fishing-ground, but it was never a fishing-ground for me.

Q. It was not for you personally. Now, you never resorted to the Seven Islands?—A. I went as far as there, but there didn't seem to be anything.

Q. Do you know how far off they fish there?—A. No, I don't know anything about it.

Q. You have also heard about that?—A. Yes, as a place of resort.

Q. You know that what mackerel are taken there are taken close in?—A. No. I don't know anything of the kind.

Q. You haven't heard it?—A. No.

Q. Some of the witnesses have said they anchored right in close and took them in dories?—A. I don't know anything of it.

Q. You fished close on the south shore of the river St. Lawrence?—A. Yes.

Q. That was well inshore?—A. We got 80 barrels very near inshore.

Q. That was the only time you fished there?—A. Yes; I never fished there before that.

Q. You have fished about Prince Edward Island six or seven years?—A. Yes, off and on.

Q. What time of the year did you go there fishing generally?—A. Well, after July. We came in about the middle of July, or after that, any time till October.

Q. What port did you make headquarters?—A. I never made any port unless we would want water. Then we went to Cascumpeque or Malpeque.

Q. You didn't go to Souris much?—A. We never fished that end.

Q. You would fish of course as you went out and when going in?—A. Well, if we thought there was any fish we would fish anywhere, but if we came out of harbor we would never think of heaving to until we got 7 miles out.

Q. I am speaking of the time you had a right to fish there?—A. Well, any time.

Q. Have you seen the fleet fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. Perhaps 200 sail, scattered about in all directions sometimes, and sometimes bunched up near together. They school off there some years quite plenty. When they school they are wider out than that.

Q. We have a good deal of evidence on that point.—A. Well, that is as far as my experience goes.

Q. Do you know whether the habits of the mackerel have changed of late years, and whether they are now found nearer than they used to be?—A. No, I could not say.

Q. Have you heard that?—A. Well, in my experience, I think that when the mackerel are scarce it is more inshore than when plenty. I think that when they are scarce, like this year, there will be more caught inshore than when they are plenty.

Q. But have you heard from any of your experienced fishermen that the mackerel are taken of late years more inshore than they used to be?—A. I haven't asked; I haven't had many going in.

Q. When you fished at Margaree, it was inshore?—A. What I caught was inshore there, all but once.

Q. Then you took them outside?—A. Well, in the year of the gale the water was stirred up, and the mackerel didn't come in until the water was still.

Q. So you went outside?—A. Yes.

Q. But except that you took them inside. Now, in the fall of the year the fleet generally make a dash at the Cape Breton shore, don't they, to finish up?—A. I think they do. They look to that place, from Cheticamp to Margaree, a good many of them. A great many of them will not go there.

Q. As a rule, they generally manage to get a good many fish?—A. Well, I don't know about that. I have known a good many that didn't get many.

Q. What is your personal experience of that? You caught one hundred barrels there one time?—A. I never caught a great many fish there. I caught some in 1851; I caught, I think, eighty barrels in that

year. The only two years I recollect catching any of any importance—well, I don't recollect any big take.

Q. Of course, one hundred barrels in a day is an enormous take? You say you caught one hundred barrels in one day? Were there any other vessels there at that time?—A. I think there were six or eight.

Q. Did they get equally good catches?—A. No.

Q. How was it that you got a full fare?—A. We got all we could. We got 103 barrels and had only 50 barrels to put them in. We get all we want, for we were alone in the evening. We came over from East Point in the night, leaving the fleet at East Point, and in the morning at daylight we were in the cove at Margaree.

Q. I suppose you had been fishing at East Point?—A. We had been trying there.

Q. You were trying at East Point with the fleet and shipped away and arrived at Margaree first. Did the fleet follow you the next day?—A. Five or six were there the next day.

Q. You had not actually depleted the water of fish?—A. I know there were six vessels there; four were from La Have, and two others.

Q. And they got fish?—A. They all caught fish.

Q. The quantities, I suppose, you do not remember?—A. I don't know how many. They all caught fish; they could not help it.

Q. The fish were so thick?—A. They were plentiful.

Q. In regard to Bird Rock and Block Island mackerel; how many of those classes of mackerel are caught?—A. From 300 to 500 barrels at Bird Rock. I think 1,500 barrels were taken at Block Island last year.

Q. What is about the average catch at Block Island?—A. During the last two or three years more have been caught.

Q. What has been the catch at Block Island this year?—A. I could not tell; 500 or 600 barrels have come into Gloucester, and some have gone to Boston, but how many I cannot say.

Q. Are they caught with hook-and-line or seine?—A. This year they were mostly caught with hook; last year mostly with the seine; they are caught both ways. In one trip last year a vessel took 200 barrels; they were taken with the seine. They were all large fish, running 128 to the barrel.

Q. You say you sent your vessels to the bay because there was no mackerel on your own shores. Were only two of them seiners?—A. The Helen M. Crosby. The Golden Hind was a seiner at home, but her seine was left ashore when she came to the bay.

Q. The Helen M. Crosby was a seiner?—A. Yes.

Q. She tried for two weeks in the bay?—A. Yes.

Q. She was not successful with the seine?—A. No; nor with hooks. She got only 8 barrels.

Q. She only staid for two weeks?—A. That was all.

Q. Seining is not successful in the bay?—A. I don't think it is.

Q. The water in which the mackerel are taken is too shallow?—A. Too shallow and rough bottom.

Q. Where did the captain of the Helen M. Crosby try to use the seine?—A. He did not try it at all, because he did not see any fish.

Q. Do you know where he went?—A. I think he told me he went to the island, and from there to the Magdalens, and crossed to Banks Bradley and Orphan, and went into Bay Chaleurs, and down to Point Miscou, to North Cape, and down the island, and across to Magdalens again, and from there to Canso and home. I think that was his route.

Q. He did not go within three miles of Prince Edward Island?—A.

Yes; I suppose he did. I could not say. He did not say anything about that.

Q. You don't know?—A. I do not know whether he went within the three miles. If I was going to the island, the first route I would take would be 7 or 8 or 10 miles off the land, and if I did not find fish there, I might go in nearer or farther out.

Q. Would it surprise you to hear that nearly all the boat-fishing is done inside of the three miles?—A. It would not surprise me at all, because I know that it is inshore this year.

Q. The fish are mostly in there?—A. They are scattered fish. A boat with two or three men picks up a barrel before night comes on. But to go in there with a vessel, the crew would be almost starved to death, for they would get nothing among 16 men. I know it is so, for I have seen so much of it.

Q. You have not been there for 14 years?—A. I don't say it is so every time; there might be one or two trips made; but that is the character of the inshore-fishing.

Q. You told the Commissioner you always went from six to seven miles off, and you were so particular you did not try coming out of the harbor?—A. I think I said he might have hove to and tried, and might have caught some mackerel. We did not reckon to heave to there as a general thing. If I said so I did not mean it, for we hove to a good many times in and out, but I never recollect catching mackerel there of any account inshore, not inside of three miles.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Speaking of halibut-fishing, do you not know where the halibut-fishermen go to catch halibut?—A. Yes, I know. I don't go with them to see where they anchor, but I know it the same as I know a good many other things.

Q. Cannot an experienced man tell from the characteristics of the fish where the halibut were caught?—A. The Georges halibut is a plump, white fish, while that taken on the Grand Banks in deep water is a coarse, heavy fish. We do not get any such fish on the Georges, where they are all plump and white. The Seal Island halibut, when we used to get them there, is also a plump, white fish, but I have not heard of any halibut having been taken there for a series of years.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg:

Q. You have spoken in regard to seeing vessels 15 miles from Port Hood. Suppose a man is standing at the edge of the water, how far can you see him, in view of the roundness of the earth?—A. I cannot tell you.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. You have said that a large portion of your business is cod-fishing. Have you fished with fresh or salt bait as a rule?—A. With fresh bait altogether. Most of our cod-fishing is on the Georges, and they use fresh bait altogether. While banking we have used fresh bait.

Q. That is on Grand Banks?—A. Yes, but it does not pay us. The last vessel that came home is the last one I want to go after fresh bait. She went in four times and brought home 75 quintals; the vessel was only a little over a month on the Banks. I will have no more fresh bait at that rate—costing over \$400 for the four bait trips.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. It has been stated here that, so long as a portion of the fleet fish with fresh bait, you are compelled to have it?—A. Yes, if on the same ground. The Grand Banks are, however, large, and they can keep

away from the fleet and get their fares, because the best fares, or equally good ones, have been caught with salt bait.

Q. Would you be inclined to send vessels to fish with salt bait when a large portion of the fleet are using fresh bait?—A. Yes. I would have them go with salt bait, if they would do it, and go away from the rest of the fleet on the Grand Banks, and fish by themselves. If they would go away from the fleet and fish on their own ground, they would get fish with salt bait.

Q. Has it ever been done in your experience?—A. Yes; Provincetown vessels use nothing but clams. I was talking with a man the other day who uses salt bait, and he said he gets his fare of from 1,200 to 1,400 quintals. But though we have used fresh bait, we have not had a successful trip to the Grand Banks.

Q. You don't know if the captains would consent?—A. If the captains would go, I would like to send them in that way and let them use salt bait.

Q. Do you know anything about halibut-fishing on the eastern shore of Anticosti?—A. I know that several years ago some vessels caught two or three trips there; but it was afterwards given up. I don't know one vessel that has been there for two or three vessels.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Have you ever been on the Grand Banks fishing yourself?—A. No.

Q. You had only a vessel there one year?—A. We had one this year, one last year.

Q. The three past years include all your experience of fishing on the Grand Banks?—A. For the last five years we have had from one to two vessels.

Q. You have had no experience personally of the advantages of either fresh or salt bait?—A. Not on the Grand Bank; all I get is from talking with men who fish with salt bait.

Q. Do you indorse the opinion that where fresh bait is used it is useless to adopt salt bait?—A. I think it is; but the vessel with salt bait can go to a different part of the ground.

Q. As far as regards the actual time necessary to go into the coast of Newfoundland or Cape Breton and get fresh bait, you cannot judge?—A. I think I can. I have been told—I always asked in regard to it—that if they could get bait readily after they go in, it would take from 10 to 12 days; about 10 days, I should judge, from what they told me. But they do not always get bait readily; sometimes they have to go to St. Peter's for ice and down to Conception Bay for bait.

Q. May they not waste their time occasionally?—A. I have no doubt they do sometimes.

No. 77.

ROGER W. WONSON, of Gloucester, Mass., fish merchant, called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined:

By Mr. Dana:

Question. Your age, I believe is forty-three, and you were born and live at Gloucester?—Answer. Yes.

Q. Did you in early life have any experience as a practical fisherman?—A. Three or four years.

Q. Then you went into the fishing business?—A. Yes.

Q. What year did you go into the business of buying and selling fish and fitting out?—A. Eighteen hundred and fifty-one.

Q. And have been in it ever since?—A. Yes.

Q. How many vessels do you think you have run on an average, including these you owned and those you managed for other people?—A. About twelve annually. I have ten at the present time.

Q. Starting from 1860, how many vessels had you in the bay then?—

A. I think I had one. I had from one vessel to five vessels most of the time.

Q. How long have you been engaged in sending vessels to the bay?—A. Twenty years.

Q. Do you think you have given the bay a fair trial?—A. I think so.

Q. What is your experience in the bay during those twenty years, as far as regards pecuniary results?—A. It has not been so profitable with us to send vessels there as on cod-fishing.

Q. Taking the bay mackerel fishery alone, has it been a profitable business?—A. I think not.

Q. Have you given up bay fishing?—A. Not wholly. We have one there this season.

Q. What is the name of the vessel?—A. The Russler.

Q. Have you heard from her?—A. We heard about two weeks ago that she had got eighty barrels. A gentleman who has come from the bay has since told me she had sixty barrels.

Q. The vessels you have sent down have been less in number than those sent elsewhere?—A. Yes.

Q. You have had one or two in the bay each season?—A. We had five there one season. We never had more than three, except that season.

Q. How many vessels have you usually sent to the Banks?—A. I should think they would average about six each season; that is, including those to George's Bank.

Q. What has been the result of your rbanking business?—A. It has been profitable. That is to say, not a large profit, but it has been more profitable than mackereling in the bay.

Q. Have you employed vessels in fishing at the South for mackerel and off Massachusetts and Maine?—A. Yes.

Q. What proportion of your vessels had been there mackerel-fishing, more or less every year?—A. Three or four. South a number of seasons, and about five on our coast.

Q. Those which go South only remain a short time?—A. Yes.

Q. Fishing on our coast, they prosecute it the whole season, if they have good luck?—A. Yes.

Q. Until this year, when we know the fishing was poor on our coast, except during the first part of the season, what has been your success in fishing on the American coast?—A. We have done very well, indeed; it has been very profitable.

Q. Have you also been engaged in the herring fishery?—A. Yes; the frozen-herring business.

Q. When did you go into that?—A. In the winter of 1868.

Q. And followed it up to this time?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it to buy or catch herring?—A. To buy, except in one instance, when one of our vessels caught a small cargo.

Q. What year was that?—A. The winter of 1873-'74.

Q. How many vessels do you send on an average to buy herring?—A. Five.

Q. Where mostly?—A. On what we call the North shore, from Eastport to Beaver Harbor—Deer Island mostly.

Q. Not many at Grand Manan?—A. We have had three cargoes from there, as near as I can recollect.

Q. Three on an average, or altogether?—A. Three altogether.

Q. In regard to mackerel-fishing on the American coast, how was the fishing this year?—A. The vessels did very well South, but when the mackerel came up from the South they could not be found.

Q. Not in Massachusetts Bay?—A. No.

Q. What intelligence did you get in Gloucester from the gulf when you could not find mackerel in Massachusetts Bay?—A. Reports were in the papers, and posted up, that there were plenty of mackerel down there, and that vessels were doing well.

Q. Were you influenced by that at the time?—A. Yes.

Q. You know pretty well what has been the result this year?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you think it is probable there were signs of mackerel at first?—A. I think mackerel were seen there at the early part of the season; very likely. Some vessels that went into the bay first got some mackerel.

Q. Since then?—A. They have done poorly; they have found scarcely any.

Q. With regard to the herring business: with the exception you mentioned, do you know any Gloucester vessel which has gone down to New Brunswick and caught herring?—A. That is the only cargo I know caught by a Gloucester vessel.

Q. Were you ever yourself on that coast looking after the herring business?—A. Yes; I have been there on an average about two months each winter for four winters.

Q. At what part of the coast were you?—A. From Eastport to Beaver Harbor mostly; I have been to Grand Manan two or three times.

Q. And to Deer Island?—A. About Deer Island mostly.

Q. That is your personal experience?—A. Yes.

Q. Where there did you ever see any Gloucester vessels catching herring?—A. I don't recollect seeing any.

Q. Do you know how it is about boats fishing at Eastport and Grand Manan, and so forth?—A. I have seen a few Eastport boats fishing there among New Brunswick boats.

Q. Have you ever seen New Brunswick boats on the other side of the line?—A. No; I don't think so. We do not catch many herring on the other side; some are caught round Eastport; not very many.

Q. They do not mind the boundary-line much there?—A. I don't think they do.

Q. Would the herring business of Gloucester be considered as one of catching or buying herring?—A. Of buying herring; we don't pretend to catch any.

Q. In the common speech among Gloucester merchants, dealers, and fishermen, if anybody spoke of the herring fleet off Gloucester, what would be understood by it?—A. Those that go down to purchase herring.

Q. Is there anything else to which they could allude?—A. No.

Q. How many American vessels do you suppose you have seen at one time on the north shore of Grand Manan engaged in the purchase of bait?—A. In the winter of 1875-'76, I saw 60 vessels at one time.

Q. Suppose the supply of salt-mackerel obtained in the bay, which is put into our market, should cease, what do you think would be the effect on the American people, and especially on the people of Gloucester?—A. I don't know that I can give you much of an idea about

that. I suppose it would affect the market for awhile, but not a great while, I should suppose.

Q. Would it affect it very severely even for a while?—A. No; I should not say it would.

Q. Suppose the American market should lose the fish taken by American vessels within three miles of the Canadian coasts, would it have a sensible effect on the American market?—A. I don't think it would.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. In regard to the herring fishing ; there is a fleet which goes down in the neighborhood of Grand Manan and Eastport, from Gloucester, every year, to get bait—herring—is there not?—A. To buy bait; yes.

Q. Do they go down with appliances to fish?—A. Not except in the one case I have mentioned.

Q. One of your vessels went down and caught a cargo?—A. Yes.

Q. Where did she fish?—A. In St. Andrew's Bay she caught nearly the whole of them.

Q. In what year was it?—A. In the winter of 1873-'74.

Q. Did she get a full cargo?—A. Yes; it was a small vessel.

Q. What time do you send your vessels down?—A. About 20th November.

Q. Do you send them down in the spring, too?—A. Not to buy to freeze for the market.

Q. Do you not send them down to get bait?—A. Yes.

Q. They want the bait for fishing there?—A. On Western Banks usually.

Q. Where do they get the bait when they go down?—A. I don't know in the spring. I have never been there in the spring and cannot tell personally, but somewhere on that coast.

Q. Do they go down in the spring with fishing appliances?—A. Not that I know of; I never saw any.

Q. Do you send any of your own vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. You send them down entirely without fishing appliances?—A. We don't put any on board.

Q. Are you aware that your captains get bait at either Grand Manan or the north shore?—A. In that vicinity.

Q. The practice of your men is to go down and give notice to the fishermen that they want bait, and the fishermen will get it for them?—A. As soon as vessels go in fishermen come on board and see if they want bait.

Q. They then make a bargain?—A. Yes.

Q. And the fishermen go and get bait for them?—A. Yes.

Q. Are the persons who go on board American citizens or British subjects?—A. I have seen them go on board from Eastport, and we suppose they are American citizens there.

Q. They are American citizens who go over and get bait in British waters?—A. I think that most of the herring are caught in British waters.

Q. I think we have had some evidence that of late years Gloucester vessels have gone down and employed Americans to get bait for them, is that so?—A. I don't think they have employed Americans. I could not say.

Q. Is it not well known that the Gloucester fleet has gone down in spring and fall, in the fall for frozen herring, and in the spring for the purpose of getting bait?—A. Yes.

Q. You have mentioned that you saw 60 vessels at one time, where

were they lying?—A. I saw them from Eastport, down what we call the North Shore, between Eastport and Beaver Harbor. They come to Eastport first, usually.

Q. For the North Shore you start at Letite; you don't call Eastport the North Shore?—A. It is on that side. It is from Eastport down what we call North Shore.

Q. Do you include the islands in the North Shore?—A. Deer Island we call North Shore.

Q. You don't mean the north shore of the mainland?—A. Not wholly.

Q. Would you include Grand Manan in your idea of the North Shore?—A. No.

Q. Or Campobello?—A. No.

Q. Only Deer Island?—A. Yes.

Q. Because that lies nearer Letite?—A. Yes.

Q. And from that all along the main shore you call the North Shore?—A. Yes.

Q. That is where your vessels chiefly got their bait and frozen herring?

—A. That is as to frozen herring. I don't know where the fishermen get them in the spring.

Q. There is a large fishing population at Eastport and along the shore westward to Lubeck, and toward Mount Desert, is there not?—A. I don't think there are a great many fishing people from Eastport to Mount Desert.

Q. Or from Eastport to Lubeck?—A. Yes.

Q. A great many persons are engaged in fishing around Eastport?—A. Not in herring fishery—in Bank fishery.

Q. I mean in bait fishing?—A. There are very few at Eastport compared with what there are across the line.

Q. Do Eastport boats or fishermen go over into British waters and fish?—A. Yes, I think they do, what there are of them.

Q. All American fishermen go over and fish on the shores of the island?—A. Yes, I think they do.

Q. Either at Deer Island, Campobello, West Isles, or Grand Manan. You yourself have no personal knowledge of the north shore or mainland, I suppose?—A. From Beaver Harbor to Letite. I have been in the harbors all along there.

Q. There is a great deal of fishing round that coast?—A. Yes.

Q. A great many American vessels come in there every year?—A. I could not say a great many; I have seen a few.

Q. Don't they come in and get bait?—A. A lot of American vessels come after bait.

Q. A large number come in and fish themselves?—A. I have only seen a few from Eastport.

Q. A large number come in and get bait?—A. Yes, buy it.

Q. They give notice to the fishermen that they want bait, and the fishermen go and get it for them?—A. Yes.

Q. You said the fisheries of the gulf are very bad. State the number of years your vessels have been in the gulf fishing?—A. I could not tell you before 1870. We have had one in every year, since 1870, till last year, when we had not any.

Q. Before 1870 had you any in the gulf?—A. Yes, but I could not state the years.

Q. Did none of those vessels previous to 1870 make money and get good cargoes?—A. I think once in a while they did fairly.

Q. Do you know whether they fished inshore or off shore?—A. I could not say.

Q. They may have taken the whole catch, for anything you know, within the 3-mile limit?—A. I never heard them say that they had taken them inshore. They may have done so.

Q. Did you ever hear from them that they did not take them inshore?—A. No.

Q. Then, for anything you know, they might all have been taken within the 3 mile limit or all outside?—A. Yes.

Q. Some of the years were profitable?—A. I think two or three years we might have done very fairly, as far as I can recollect.

Q. Since 1870 how many vessels have you had in the bay?—A. From one to three, except last year, when we had not any.

Q. Had you made money in the gulf fishing up to 1870?—A. No; I do not think we had.

Q. Had you lost money?—A. I could not say for certain. I don't think we made any; but I could not say for certain we lost any. I don't think it was profitable.

Q. You had not lost any money up to that time?—A. I could not say we had.

Q. At all events, notwithstanding the character of that fishing—good or bad—you sent to the gulf after 1870 every year until last year?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you lost money since 1870?—A. Yes; we have.

Q. A large sum?—A. No; not very large.

Q. How much have you lost?—A. I could not say. I have not the figures, and have not examined the books.

Q. Cannot you tell how much you have lost?—A. I cannot tell you.

Q. You sold supplies to the vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. You charged a profit on all the supplies you put on board your vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Putting that business and the fishing business together, do you say you have lost money since 1870?—A. We have on bay fishing.

Q. Taking the profit on outfit on the fish after they are repacked and in other ways, have you lost money?—A. We have made a shrinkage.

Q. You sell the fish, or take them at a price?—A. We sell them for the benefit of the voyage.

Q. You allow the men so much for their share?—A. We don't buy mackerel ourselves. We sell them to the buyers and speculators there.

Q. You don't speculate at all yourselves?—A. Not in mackerel.

Q. Do you in other fish?—A. Yes; in codfish.

Q. What do you do with the vessels which are in the gulf in summer and early fall?—A. They go cod-fishing in spring, or to the South for mackerel; cod-fishing, chiefly.

Q. Then you want the bay fishery for the purpose of filling up their time?—A. We send them there to catch some fish if they can.

Q. Why do you keep them there every year?—A. We don't keep many there; we used to have five; we have only one there now.

Q. Why do you keep one in the bay?—A. In the hope it will do better.

Q. Are you serious in saying you don't think the gulf inshore fishery is worth anything?—A. Yes.

Q. Suppose the inshore fishery was taken away from you, and the rest of the gulf fishing was left to you, and the fishing at the Magdalen Islands, would it do you any injury?—A. I think not.

Q. Practically it is of no value to you?—A. I think not.

Q. Is that the opinion of Gloucester fishermen generally?—A. I could not say.

Q. Surely you must know the general opinion of Gloucester people, when you are a Gloucester man?—A. It is a matter I do not hear discussed much, and I could not say what the general opinion is.

Q. Do you think the opinion you hold is one in which no one else agrees with you?—A. I have heard my partner mention it.

Q. Do you say you know so little about the public opinion of Gloucester that you cannot tell whether that is the opinion of the people there?—A. Well, I think it is; I have not heard much about it.

Q. Some witnesses so have stated that Boston is the great center of the fish trade in the United States; is that your opinion?—A. I think it is, in certain kinds.

Q. Do you know what is the general opinion in Boston in regard to the right of fishing inshore in the gulf?—A. I do not.

Q. Does not the board of trade there represent the opinion of Boston in matters of trade?—A. I suppose it does; I don't know what its opinion is.

Q. I want to call your attention to a report of the government of the Boston board of trade presented to the board on 17th January, 1855. At page 1 it says:

The government of the Boston Board of Trade have the pleasure of placing before the members an account of proceedings upon the principal subjects which have engaged their attention since the organization of the board.

At the regular meeting in November, a report was made embracing many of these subjects, and the short time which has elapsed since has furnished them with but little new to communicate at the present time.

They deem it proper, however, on the occasion of the annual meeting, to review what has been done, and to give you some idea of the plan which it is proposed to pursue, in order to accomplish the end for which our board was incorporated.

At page 10, there is the following passage:

The people of Nova Scotia are differently employed, according to the districts in which they reside. In the agricultural portions of the province they are all farmers; on the seaboard they are ship-builders, fishermen, and sailors, the latter engaged in coasting and the carrying trade of the world, in vessels of their own build, wherever they can find employment.

In New Brunswick the population is about equally divided between farming, lumbering, and ship-building, with a small portion engaged in the fisheries.

It will thus be seen that the pursuits of the people are various, and that while in some particulars their interests are identical, in others they are antagonistic.

The inward and outward trade of the five British North American colonies amounts to about eighty millions of dollars annually. The ships inward and outward, to and from foreign ports, exclusive of local trade, amounted in 1853 to near four millions of tons, and the aggregate of tonnage owned and registered in these colonies now amounts to five hundred thousand tons. They built and sold in England in 1853, one hundred and fifty thousand tons of new shipping. These ships are employed on every ocean and the character of colonial ships is rapidly rising; they nearly equal the first-class American and British ships, and the improvement in intellectual and moral character of colonial ship-masters and seamen is fully keeping pace with their improvements in naval architecture.

The British North American colonies, though separated from us by several thousand miles of frontier, are geographically united to us, and the free exchange of merchandise in countries so situated is almost inevitable. Their present population is rapidly increasing and they are increasing in material wealth.

Some of the mutual advantages which the present treaty presents in our own particular relations with these provinces may be at once seen.

It opens another source from which to draw our breadstuffs, cattle, lumber, and fuel, and our thickly-settled manufacturing districts offer to the provinces the best market in our country for the consumption of their products; while, on the other hand, all our manufactures being admitted to the provinces on as favorable terms as those of Great Britain, or of any other country, we have a wide field open wherein to dispose of our surplus products, and offer them the important advantage of supplying themselves from first-hands. The value of our exports to the provinces is already one

and a half millions a year, made up of stoves, iron, and wooden-wares, and all sorts of Yankee inventions; and this amount, under free intercourse, will greatly increase.

The foreign imports into this district have increased in the last fifteen years from fourteen to forty-six millions of dollars, and our market now offers, or should offer, if we are true to ourselves, every inducement for the inhabitants of the provinces to supply themselves here with foreign dry-goods, teas, groceries, or whatever else they may need.

In connection with this, your directors cannot refrain from mentioning, incidentally, the great increase which is seen in the amount of goods sent in transit by way of Boston to the Canadas within the past few years—from twenty-five thousand dollars in 1849, to over five millions in 1854; nor from referring to the great facilities afforded by our harbor, by the improvements at East Boston, and the line of railway by which all our roads from Boston may be united—as eminently calculated to augment our commercial relations, for export as well as import, with the British North American provinces, and with our whole Western countries, and as of almost incalculable advantage to our railroads, if they only show themselves capable of doing the business.

But, in connection with the Reciprocity Treaty, it is to the importance of the fisheries that your directors wish at this time particularly to call your attention; seventy per cent. of the tonnage employed in the whale, cod, and mackerel fisheries in the United States belongs to Massachusetts, and Boston is the business center.

By colonial construction of the Convention between the United States and Great Britain, of 1818, we were excluded from not less than four thousand miles of fishing-ground. The valuable mackerel fishery is situated between the shore and a line drawn from the St. Croix River, southeast to Seal Island, and extending along the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia, about three miles from the coast, around Cape Breton, outside Prince Edward Island, across the entrance to the Bay of Chaleur; thence outside the Island of Anticosti to Mt. Joly, on the Labrador coast, where the right of shore-fishing commences. The coasts within these limits, following their several indentations, are not less than four thousand miles in extent, all excellent fishing-grounds. Before the mackerel fishery began to be closely watched and protected, our vessels actually swarmed on the fishing-ground within the spaces inclosed by the line mentioned.

Each of these vessels made two or three full fares in the season, and some thousands of valuable cargoes were landed every year in the United States, adding largely to our wealth and prosperity.

A sad contrast has since existed. From Gloucester only one hundred and fifty-six vessels were sent to the Bay of Saint Lawrence in 1853. Of these, not more than one in ten made the *second* trip, and even they did not get full fares the first trip, but went a second time in the hope of doing better. The principal persons engaged in the business in Gloucester, estimated that the loss in 1853 amounted to an average of one thousand dollars on each vessel, without counting that incurred from detention, delays, and damages from being driven out of the harbor and from waste of time by crews. It was agreed by all parties that if their vessels could have had free access to the fishing-grounds, as formerly, the difference to that district alone would have been at least four hundred thousand dollars.

In 1853, there were forty-six vessels belonging to Beverly; thirteen of them went to the bay in 1852, but owing to the restrictions their voyages were wholly unsuccessful, and none of them went in 1853.

At Salem, only two mackerel licenses were granted in 1853, and at Marblehead only six.

At Newburyport there are ninety fishing-vessels; seventy of these went to the bay for mackerel in 1853, but almost all of them, it is said, made ruinous voyages. At Boston, only a dozen licenses were granted for this fishery in 1853, and very few of the one hundred vessels belonging to the towns of Dennis and Harwich, on Cape Cod, two-thirds of which are engaged in the mackerel fishery, went to the bay for mackerel last year, because of the ill success attending the operations of the year previous. One of their vessels of one hundred tons burthen, manned by sixteen men, was six weeks in the bay in 1853, and returned with only one barrel of mackerel.

Unless some change had taken place beneficial to the interests of our hardy fishermen, the Northern fisheries would have been wholly ruined, and in all probability have entirely ceased, except on a very limited scale on our own shores. The one hundred and fifty thousand tons of shipping employed in those fisheries would have been obliged to seek employment elsewhere, and the product of the fisheries themselves, amounting to three or four million dollars annually, would have been lost to us. The present treaty opens to us again all these valuable fisheries, and our thanks are due to the distinguished statesmen who have labored in bringing it to a successful termination; and your directors are most happy to make mention of the services of Israel D. Andrews, esq., a gentleman whom we hope to have the pleasure of meeting to-day, who has worked most assiduously for the last four years in collecting and furnishing in his valuable reports almost all the information possessed on the subject, and without whose exertions, it is hardly too much to say, the treaty would never have been made.

Q. That is the opinion of the Boston Board of Trade. Do you dissent from that opinion?—A. I don't think they know so much about the fishing business as Gloucester people do.

Q. In 1853, were Gloucester people doing a flourishing business in the gulf, or were they losing money?—A. I could not say.

Q. The Boston board of directors state that "it was agreed by all parties that if their vessels (Gloucester vessels) could have had free access to the fishing-grounds as formerly, the difference to that district alone would have been at least \$600,000." Do you dissent from that opinion?—A. Yes.

Q. I now call your attention to a speech delivered by Mr. Erastus Brooks, delivered at New York on May 28, 1874. He says:

Our public documents show, first, in 1862, we had over 203,000 tons of shipping in the fisheries, off what are now the Canadian coasts, with 28,000 seamen; the returns considerably exceeded \$14,000,000.

Do you agree or dissent from that opinion?—A. I don't know anything about it.

Q. He says:

2d. Within three years from the abrogation of the treaty depriving our fishermen of the shore privileges under the treaty, our tonnage in the trade fell to 62,000 tons—a loss of 70 per cent.

Do you dissent from that statement?—A. Yes. I don't think it fell off that much; it fell off considerably; I could not say how much.

Q. He further says:

3d. The reconcession of these shore privileges, under the Washington Treaty, has already doubled the tonnage of our fishing-fleet from what it was in 1869.

Do you dissent from that?—A. I should not think it was a true statement, though I could not say.

Q. I suppose you know as a fact that the tonnage did fall off after the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. Yes.

Q. And you know that, after the Treaty of Washington, in 1871, your tonnage began to increase, and has increased ever since?—A. I don't think it has.

Q. Then you think this statement is not correct?—A. It has fallen off.

Q. Since 1871?—A. I think so.

Q. Then Mr. Brooks is wrong?—A. It has been falling off all the time.

Q. Since 1861 it has not increased?—A. I don't think it has.

Q. This statement, then, is a misstatement?—A. I think it has been falling off all the time.

Mr. Thomson put in the following paper:

[New York Evening Express, May 28th, 1874.]

Produce Exchange.

ANOTHER CALL UPON THE GOVERNMENT—SPEECH OF ERASTUS BROOKS—RECIPROCAL COMMERCIAL TREATY.

A meeting of the members of the exchange was held this afternoon, to consider the subject of restoring reciprocal commercial relations between the United States, Canada, and Newfoundland.

Mr. B. W. Floyd, vice-president, presided. The secretary read the following:

The board of managers of the New York Produce Exchange having learned that negotiations are now pending between the United States and the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland for the renewal of reciprocal commercial relations between the two countries, it is therefore

Resolved, That this exchange earnestly desires to impress upon the Government of the United States, and upon the Senators and Representatives of this State in Congress,

the great importance of the consummation of such a treaty at the earliest day practicable.

Resolved, That a committee of 7 members of the produce exchange be appointed by the president, who shall take such action as in their judgment may be deemed necessary to carry out the objects of this meeting.

The president then introduced the Hon. Erastus Brooks, who spoke in substance as follows:

Mr. Brooks said: The more freedom there is in trade the better for the country, for its producers, for its consumers, for the merchant, and for the carrier; and, therefore, the just conclusion that the fewer restrictions imposed upon trade and commerce by Federal or State laws, the better for the people at large. However much either of these propositions may be disputed, the truth of history will sustain this position. So rare are the exceptions or qualifying circumstances that the main facts will always stand good.

The subject before us is the proposed restoration of the Reciprocity Treaty with so much freedom of trade as is practical for two governments to agree upon. Between the States the fundamental law of the land wisely compels this freedom. Free and equal States, with equal rights for all citizens and all kinds of trade, whatever the practice, is the natural and legal right of all; and but for unjust combinations of selfish men for selfish purposes there would never be any departure from this sound maxim.

It is now proposed that, as between the United States and Canada, there shall be—

1. The waiver of money compensation by the United States for fisheries under the Washington Treaty.

2. That the Canadian canals, from Lake Erie to Montreal, be enlarged within 3 years at the cost of Canada, so as to admit the passage of vessels 260 feet in length and 45 in breadth, and with a depth equal to the capacity of the lake harbors.

3. That during the treaty all the Canadian canals, and the Erie, Whitehall, and Sault St. Marie, and Lake St. Clair canals shall be open to vessels and boats of both countries and on the same terms.

4. That the free navigation of Lake Michigan be put on the same terms as the free navigation of the St. Lawrence River.

5. That the navigation of the St. Clair flats be maintained at the expense of both countries in proportion to their commerce thereon.

6. That the productions of the farm, forest, mines, and water, and also animals, meats, and products of the dairy, be admitted into both countries duty free, as was provided in the Treaty of 1854.

7. This list may possibly include agricultural implements, manufactures of iron and steel and of wood, minerals, oils, salt, and a few other articles.

This is opposed because, as alleged, it will interfere with protection and admit the Canadians to none of the benefits of American citizenship.

The answer to this assertion is that all the facts are against the objection. From 1821 to 1833 the average annual traffic between the United States and Canada was \$3,500,000, and from 1832 (sic) to 1845, \$6,500,000, and from 1846 to 1853, \$14,230,000. This traffic rose in twelve years of reciprocity to a purchase by the colonies of United States commodities to the gold value of \$359,667,000, and the purchase by us from the colonies of products to the value of \$197,000,000. There was a balance in gold in favor of the United States during ten years of nearly \$96,000,000, and in these twelve years the United States exports to Canada equaled in value all our exports to China, Brazil, Italy, Hayti, Russia, Venezuela, Austria, the Argentine Republic, Denmark, Turkey, Portugal, the Sandwich Islands, Central America, and Japan; while our trade with these governments showed that we imported from these countries over \$192,000,000 in excess of our exports other than gold. While thus the balance of trade with Canada was nearly \$96,000,000 in our favor, of our exports to Canada \$151,000,000 were in manufactures.

THE FISHERY RIGHTS, LUMBER, ETC.

Our public documents show—

1. In 1862 we had over 203,000 tons of shipping in the fisheries off what are now the Canadian coasts, with 28,000 seamen, and the returns considerably exceeded \$14,000,000.

2. Within three years from the abrogation of the treaty, depriving our fishermen of the shore privileges under the treaty, our tonnage in the trade fell to 62,000 tons, a loss of 70 per cent.

3. The reconcession of these shore-privileges, under the Washington treaty, has already doubled the tonnage of our fishing-fleet from what it was in 1869.

4. As to the benefits of reciprocity, our official returns show that from 1820 to 1854, in which latter year the treaty went into operation, the provinces bought from us merchandise to the value of \$167,216,709, while we bought from them but \$67,794,426; a cash balance in our favor of nearly \$100,000,000.

5. In the years from 1854 to 1863, in which the treaty was in operation, the provinces

purchased from us \$255,282,698, while we purchased from them \$193,269,153; a balance in our favor of \$62,000,000. From July 1, 1863, to June 30, 1866, our returns show that we imported from them a value of \$132,000,000, while their returns show only \$81,000,000 exported to us; a discrepancy of \$50,000,000, which the Canadians allege must have originated from our war prices and inflated currency.

6th. If the United States returns are correct, the provinces in these three years had a large balance of trade in their favor; if the province returns are correct, the balance was in our favor.

7th. Canada asserts, as to a large portion of the articles received from her free of duty under the treaty, that our importations have been annually increasing since the repeal at greatly enhanced prices.

8th. While the treaty was in operation we purchased over \$29,000,000 of lumber, or an average of \$3,000,000 per annum, but in the seven years that have elapsed since the repeal, we have purchased nearly \$59,000,000 of lumber, or an annual average of over \$8,000,000.

9th. The cash price of clear lumber in Toronto is \$26 per 1,000 feet, or double what it was ten years ago, and its price now in Portland, Me., is double the present price in Toronto.

Our great international interests relate chiefly to the several subjects involved in the above-named propositions. It is a good rule to judge of the future by the past, and, judging from the past, here are the advantages derived from the treaty when it existed. The Canadians quote against us our own official records to prove that in the old treaty we had all the advantage.

The British North American Provinces purchased from us merchandise to the value of \$69,286,709, and the United States purchased from the provinces \$67,749,426, leaving a balance in favor of the United States of \$9,425,292. In the first ten years of the treaty we had a balance in favor of the United States of \$62,013,545.

Since the abrogation of the old treaty, eight years since, articles that were free now pay an average duty of 25 per cent., while the more important articles formerly free were animals, breadstuffs, grain and flour, lumber, timber, coal, butter and cheese, wool, fish, and fish products. All these are necessities, and contribute to the food and clothing and shelter of the people.

But Canada and the United States are not the only parties in interest. Take the Province of Newfoundland. Our average imports from there amounted under the treaty to \$300,000 annually, while the exports of pork and flour footed up \$2,250,000 per annum. So in 1862, under the treaty, New Brunswick sold goods to the United States of the value of \$890,000, and purchased \$2,000,000, paying the difference in cash, while Nova Scotia, in the same year, sold \$2,000,000 of codfish, &c., to the United States, and purchased goods to the amount of \$3,800,000.

EFFECT OF THE REPEAL ON NEW YORK.

The repeal of the treaty has injured the commerce of this port to a great extent. One of the firms engaged in the tobacco trade says that his house sold \$2,000,000 annually to Canadian buyers during the treaty, but that he has done comparatively nothing since 1866.

The butter and cheese trade of the country, representing \$500,000,000 of its production, has had the same experience. This is also the experience of nearly all our business men, and it is this class who urge the restoration of the treaty. Of course, such a treaty must be reciprocal in fact as in name. It is said that under the treaty which expired "Canadians were ready to interchange free commodities, but on goods subject to duty they placed such exorbitant tariff, as to prohibit purchases in the United States. The result was loud and constant complaints and demands for the termination of the treaty. The benefits were mainly with the Canadians, the burdens with us."

The facts here given do not bear out this record, but if they were true the American Government would, of course, modify the treaty. The fact is, that, while the old treaty existed, over 52 per cent. of the entire trade of the provinces was with this country, and since its abrogation our portion of the trade amounts to less than 35 per cent.

The conclusions from all these facts, whatever the contrary opinion, is that the repeal of the Reciprocal Treaty has lost the country many millions of dollars, and that its restoration in spirit, not necessarily in form, is most desirable to all general interests and detrimental to none of them. In the Dominion of Canada there are now over 4,000,000 of people with a debt considerably less than the debt of the city of New York. The commerce of the Dominion last year was 60 steamships, 446 sailing vessels, and 152,226 tons of shipping; and 11,089 sea-going ships, with a tonnage of 3,032,476 tons, arrived at Canadian ocean ports, and 18,960 lake and river vessels, with a tonnage of 2,994,484 tons, at Canadian inland ports, and this makes the Dominion, after England and the United States, next to France as the shipping country of the world.

The imports into Canada last year were valued at \$138,961,281, of which \$60,000,000

were without duty. Shall we repel a people and a trade so inviting as this? In your own and the general interests of the city I hope not. It was said in the days of the Roman Empire that all roads lead to Rome. In the commerce, capital, credit, trade, and the general thrift of the new world it may be said that all roads lead to New York. We have but to do our whole duty, fairly aided by the general government, not only to secure property for ourselves, but to contribute largely to the prosperity of others.

Mr. Archibald Baxter spoke of the importance of the treaty, and of the advantages of the old one, the abrogation of which did not remove any disadvantages under which the United States then labored. He insisted that nature intended the two countries to reciprocate commerce; we had only to look to their contiguity and the facilities provided to promote it. The speaker urged an emphatic demonstration by the meeting in favor of maintaining the treaty.

The resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

Q. I will now read you the following from the Cape Ann Advertiser of October 18, 1877:

THE TONNAGE OF GLOUCESTER.—The statement of the tonnage of the district of Gloucester for the quarter ending September 30, 1877, shows a total of 523 vessels, aggregating 34,743½ tons, an increase during the quarter of 6 vessels and 1,375.54 tons; 4 are under permanent registers, 1,189.34 tons; 1 temporary register, 533.67 tons; 462 permanent enrollment, 29,873.08 tons; 6 temporary enrollments, 2,525.58 tons; 66 (less than 20 tons) under licenses, 698.83 tons; 5 vessels, 1,653.01 tons, are employed in foreign trade; 91 vessels, 9,013.22 tons, in the coasting trade; 3 in yachting, 182.47 tons; and 417 vessels, 22,994.80 tons, in the fisheries. During the quarter, 2 vessels, 158.83 tons, have been built in the district; and 2, 109.97 tons, have been lost at sea.—*Cape Ann Advertiser.*

Is that true, or do you dissent from the statement?—A. I should think it is true.

Q. That does not show the decrease you have just spoken of?—A. I understood that you were speaking of fishing in Canadian waters when you mentioned the decrease.

Q. You do not then dissent from the statement that after the treaty was passed the tonnage increased to that extent, no matter where they went fishing?—A. The tonnage has been increasing in Gloucester ever since I can remember.

Q. The tonnage of the fishing fleet fell from 1866—the time of the Reciprocity Treaty—to 1869 to 62,000 tons?—A. I thought you asked me about the tonnage in Canadian waters.

Q. Did it not fall after the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. There was not so much tonnage in Canadian waters.

Q. Did the tonnage fall?—A. I don't think it did in Gloucester.

Q. Did the whole American tonnage fall after the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. I cannot say, except as regards Gloucester.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Do you know anything about the Boston Board of Trade 22 years ago?—A. No.

Q. Had it anything to do with the fishing business?—A. Not that I know of.

Q. Did you ever know any member of the Board of Trade who had anything to do with the fishing business?—A. No.

Q. Was Boston or Gloucester the representative of the fishing business, or even now, as regards the ownership and employment of vessels?—A. Gloucester.

Q. Was there any ownership or employment of vessels with which the Boston Board of Trade had anything to do?—A. Not that I know of.

Q. Has not the whole business of cod and mackerel fishing changed since that time? At that time, 22 years ago, was seining or trawling practiced by the vessels?—A. Seining was not, and I do not think trawling was to any extent.

Q. You had an extract read to you from the report of the Boston Board of Trade. Had it rather a swelling auctioneering style with it? How did it strike you?—A. It may be true, but it does not appear to be so.

Q. It speaks of the colonial construction of the Treaty of 1868. That is a construction which keeps us out of the great bays?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know how the colonies constructed the Treaty of 1818?—A. I don't recollect exactly.

Q. If that report attributes the falling off in the gulf fishery, which you say has been pretty steady, to the inability to fish within three miles of the shore, is that a correct statement?—A. I could not say about that.

Q. Has the falling off of the gulf fishery from Gloucester been irrespective of the dates and times at which treaties have gone into operation, and has it been on the whole steady and uniform?—A. I think it has been steady.

Q. If anybody did in 1855 form the opinion that our fishermen would prosper vastly if they could fish within the three miles and would go to ruin if they could not, has it or has it not turned out to be an entirely erroneous opinion?—A. I think so.

Q. Is it true of the fishing tonnage, that during the three years after the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, the tonnage fell from 203,000 to 62,000?—A. I think not.

Q. Is that anything within reason?—A. I think not.

Q. The fishing clauses of the Washington Treaty had not been in operation in Prince Edward Island more than two years, and in other parts not more than one year, when the speech was made. Mr. Brooks says:

3d. The reconcession of the shore privileges under the Washington Treaty has already doubled the tonnage of our fishing fleet from what it was in 1869.

Have you any idea of such a thing having happened?—A. No.

Q. Has the amount of tonnage employed in the bay fishery increased or diminished within the last six years?—A. It has diminished.

Q. And there has been no marked change in its favor since the Washington Treaty went into operation. The fishing in the gulf has not increased, but has diminished, without reference to the Washington Treaty?—A. The fishing in the gulf—yes.

Q. You have not seen this speech, made by Mr. Erastus Brooks, before?—A. No.

Q. The extract from the Cape Ann Advertiser, which has been read, shows an increase of six vessels during the quarter. Four of these are under permanent registers. Those, I suppose, are not bay fishing vessels?—A. No; I suppose not.

Q. They would be trading vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Has the tonnage of Gloucester engaged in trading with the West Indies and Europe and other parts increased?—A. Yes, and the coasting trade.

Q. Taking all the fishing—the home fishing for cod, haddock, and halibut, on all the banks, and fishing in the gulf—has it, on the whole, increased or diminished?—A. I think it has increased somewhat.

Q. But the increase has been in what branch of the business?—A. Mostly in the coasting trade. Perhaps our fishing has increased somewhat.

Q. Has the cod-fishing increased or decreased?—A. It has increased.

Q. And the bay fishing has decreased?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. You stated, in answer to Mr. Dana, that you did not know any person belonging to the Boston Board of Trade in the fishing business. Do you know the members of the Board of Trade who framed that report in 1855?—A. No.

Q. Then you did not mean the Commissioners to understand it was composed by gentlemen who had nothing to do with the trade. Do you know a single man who composed the report?—A. No.

Q. Then you cannot undertake to say that there was no man who was not engaged in the fishing business?—A. I know there is no Gloucester man.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. Is the falling off in the fishing, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, attributed by you to its being less profitable of late years?—A. Yes.

Q. And more profitable on your own coast?—A. Yes.

Q. You say that this year the mackerel were reported to be more abundant in the bay and that induced you to send more of your vessels to the bay?—A. That induced us to send what we did. We did not intend to send any—we sent one.

Q. Would it be your opinion that, if the mackerel should be as plentiful in the bay as they were in former years, the fleet would again go as they did before?—A. If they were scarce on our coast, they might.

Q. Under similar circumstances, they would go back. Do you mean they did not go to the bay because they found fishing on the American coast rather more profitable than in the bay?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. And cod-fishing?—A. Yes.

No. 78.

WEDNESDAY, *October 24, 1877.*

The Conference met.

FITZ J. BABSON, collector of customs of Gloucester, Mass., called on behalf of the Government of the United States, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Trescot :

Question. Are you collector of the port of Gloucester?—Answer. I am.

Q. How long have you been so?—A. Eight years.

Q. Is it your duty as collector to issue papers to all vessels going out of Gloucester?—A. It is.

Q. What is the character of the papers you issue?—A. Three kinds—domestic and foreign—a register fishing license and coasting license.

Q. Does the register or fishing license include the privilege to touch and trade, or is it a special issue?—A. The privilege to touch and trade is simply what is connected with the fishing license by application made upon the part of the captain or owner.

Q. Explain what it is.—A. A vessel taking a fishing license and being desirous to touch and trade as part of the trip or the whole of it, applies at the office for a permit to touch and trade, which is a paper that is in connection with the fishing license, and gives the same power for that one voyage as a register.

Q. Then, as I understand it, a fishing-vessel sailing from Gloucester with the intention to buy bait at Newfoundland, or to buy frozen herring, would take out, besides a fishing license, a permit to touch and trade?—A. It would.

Q. What is the difference either in cost or in advantage between taking out a permit to touch and trade, and taking a register?—A. A permit to touch and trade would simply cost 25 cents. In case a vessel under a fishing license wishes to take a register it has to give up the license and take out a register, which would cost \$2.25. The other expenditures to which the vessel would be liable under a register would be a tonnage tax of thirty cents per ton, and also a hospital tax of forty cents per month on each individual member of the crew for the time she had the register.

Q. Under a register the vessel would have to enter and clear at every port, and that is a certain additional cost?—A. Yes.

Q. Take a Gloucester vessel that is going fishing and she thinks she may want to purchase bait, or, at all events, to go and fish and purchase frozen herring; if she takes a register, when she returned with the cargo she would have to enter and clear, and if she went out fishing she would have to enter and clear every voyage?—A. Yes.

Q. Whereas, if it takes out a fishing license with a permit to touch and trade she could go and come without any further entries?—A. Certainly.

Q. Then those vessels pay none of the duties you refer to?—A. With a fishing license, with permit to touch and trade, no duties are exacted.

Q. With regard to the hospital tax. That is paid on every entry?—A. On every entry of a vessel under a register. No hospital tax is exacted from our fishermen.

Q. A vessel under a register would have to pay the hospital tax at the port of entry without she had paid it at the port from which she cleared?—A. At every new entry.

Q. Then a vessel going out of Gloucester, which takes a permit to touch and trade, would be considered as going on a trading voyage?—A. Most certainly, it takes it for that purpose.

Q. With regard to Gloucester vessels that go to buy frozen herring, do they, as a general rule, take a license to touch and trade?—A. They do.

Q. It gives to the voyage, in the eye of the law of the United States, a trading character?—A. Most certainly.

Q. Do you mean that all Gloucester vessels that go fishing, say for mackerel, take out permits to touch and trade?—A. No, only those that buy frozen herring. We have never had occasion to issue permits to touch and trade to other vessels. The mackerel-fishing is conducted under a general fishing license.

Q. Does the permit to touch and trade confine them to purchase herring, or does it authorize them to do a general trade?—A. It allows them to trade in the products of any country, wherever they may be on its shores, or to which they may go; otherwise they would be liable to confiscation and seizure for trading under a fishing license.

Q. Then, as far as the permit goes, a vessel goes out under it, say mackerel-fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. And when it buys frozen herring it is in the way of trade?—A. It is a commercial voyage.

Q. Is there a drawback allowed on salt used in the fishing business of the United States?—A. There is for all fish taken by American vessels a drawback allowed to the amount of the duty, eight cents per one hundred pounds. In 1872 the duty was eighteen cents per one hundred pounds, and it has been reduced in the tariff to eight cents per one hundred pounds.

Q. Is it allowed to mackerel fishermen?—A. It is allowed to all fishermen.

Q. Can you form an estimate of the amount of drawback allowed at Gloucester?—A. About \$50,000.

Q. Are you able to say what portion of that \$50,000 was allowed for the mackerel fisheries as against those of cod and other fish?—A. According to the best of my judgment about one-fifth. It would be according to the catch; sometimes it would exceed that a little.

Q. How are you able to ascertain that?—A. On the cancellation of the bond given on a withdrawal entry of salt the parties are obliged to take the amount of fish taken by the vessels, and where the salt was taken. We have a general standard by which we average that matter. The quantity of fish would show very nearly the amount of salt required, and upon that oath the bond is canceled.

Q. Have you any idea what proportion that \$50,000 would bear to the general drawback on salt allowed in the United States?—A. I have not. I have no data on which I could fix any sum.

Q. Can you tell me from any information you have, what the amount would be, either in quantity or value, of the mackerel fisheries at Gloucester; and, if so, state how you arrive at the information?—A. I requested one of my inspectors to take the amount from their books, of owners and fitters, for the last ten years, of the amount of mackerel taken by Gloucester vessels, not only on our own shores, but also in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, involving the whole catch of the place, which I have here, with his affidavit that he has attended to this duty, and he makes the report in that form.

Q. This is an official report by your inspector to you?—A. Yes.

Q. I don't understand, however, that it is a part of your official duty to make this inquiry?—A. Not in this special case. We make a return of the estimated fisheries for the benefit of the Bureau of Statistics, about June 30, the end of the fiscal year, which, of course, is an estimate, because there is no return at that season from which to make the table.

Q. You have examined this return?—A. I have looked it over casually.

Q. Without reference to any other information, have you come yourself to any conclusion from that return?—A. My conclusion would be, as a comparative statement relating to the value of the bay fishery and shore fishery, that in 1866 and 1867 there is but little doubt our catches in the bay per vessel exceeded those on our own shores, but in succeeding years, including 1876 and not including 1877, there is but little doubt our catches have constantly increased until the catches of our vessels off our own shores have doubled if not trebled those caught in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Q. Is it the duty of your office to report to the Treasury Department the loss of Gloucester vessels and the cause of loss?—A. It is.

Q. Have you prepared a list of the vessels lost and the causes?—A. I have a report here which embodies a portion of the losses and the causes.

Witness handed in the following table :

No.	Species of vessel.	Name of vessel.	Value.	Men lost.	Home port.	Date.	Where lost.
1	Schooner	Amazon	\$2,000		Gloucester	1830	Bay Chaleur.
2	do	Friendship	2,500		do	1832	Cape Sable.
3	do	Adrian	1,500		do	1837	St. John's.
4	do	Gentile	3,000		do	1838	Margaree Island, Bay St. Lawrence.
5	do	Mary and Elizabeth	2,000		do	1840	St. Peter's, Bay St. Lawrence.
6	do	Henrietta	1,000		do	1843	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
7	do	Branch	1,500		do	1843	Do.
8	do	Only Daughter	1,500		do	1845	Off Cape Canso.
9	do	Enchantress	1,000		do	1849	Cape Sable.
10	do	Flirt	4,000	14	do	1851	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
11	do	Princeton	3,000	10	do	1851	Do.
12	do	Jubilee	900		do	1851	Bay St. Lawrence, run down at sea.
13	do	Daniel P. King	3,500		do	1851	Cape Breton.
14	do	Red Wing	1,400		do	1851	Cheticamp.
15	do	Garland	4,000		do	1851	Malpee.
16	do	Powhattan	1,500		do	1851	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
17	do	Eleanor	4,000		do	1851	Malpee.
18	do	Eyrean T. Colby	5,000		do	1852	Cascumpec.
19	do	John Gerard	4,000		do	1852	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
20	do	Atlanta	3,400		do	1852	Souris, Prince Edward Island.
21	do	Ocean Star	4,000		do	1852	Do.
22	do	Hannibal	2,600		do	1852	Do.
23	do	Angusta Parker	2,800		do	1852	Do.
24	do	Rio del Norte	2,800		do	1852	Do.
25	do	Leader	1,000		do	1852	Do.
26	do	Champion	1,800		do	1853	At sea.
27	do	Mary Jones	2,500		do	1855	Prince Edward Island.
28	do	Alpha	700		do	1856	Canso.
29	do	Lioness	1,200		do	1856	Bay Chaleur, at sea.
30	do	Itaska	3,800		do	1856	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
31	do	Samuel Jones	3,800		do	1856	Do.
32	do	Arbutus	3,800		do	1856	Do.
33	do	Hosea Ballan	1,200		do	1857	Do.
34	do	Mary Hart	3,000		do	1857	Cape Breton.
35	do	Montezuma	2,300		do	1857	Do.
36	do	Village Belle	3,700	16	do	1858	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
37	do	Three Sisters	500		do	1858	Do.
38	do	Premium	800		do	1858	Do.
39	do	Geranium	800		do	1858	Do.
40	do	John Franklin	4,500	14	do	1858	Prince Edward Island.
41	do	Alexandria	4,000	6	do	1858	Newfoundland.
42	do	Queen of Clippers	4,000	6	do	1858	Do.
43	do	Ethelinde	4,500		do	1859	Ragged Island, Newfoundland.
44	do	Henrietta	4,000		do	1859	Do.
45	do	Pilot	1,600		do	1860	Cheticamp, Nova Scotia.
46	do	Mohenie	3,450		do	1861	Cape Sable.
47	do	Coquette	3,200		do	1861	Port Hood.
48	do	E. K. Kane	3,400		do	1861	Liverpool, Nova Scotia.
49	do	Republic	2,500		do	1861	Ragged Island, Newfoundland.
50	do	Narraganset	2,000		do	1861	St. Mary's, Nova Scotia.
51	do	R. H. Oakes	6,000		do	1861	Louisburg Bar.
52	do	Ella Osborne	3,200		do	1861	Cole Bay.
53	do	Ocean Traveller	4,000	10	do	1862	Newfoundland.
54	do	Alpala	2,500		do	1863	Do.
55	do	Mary E. Hiltz	7,500	1	do	1864	Do.
56	do	Kossuth	12,000		do	1864	Owl's Harbor, Newfoundland.
57	do	Fearless	5,500		do	1864	Newfoundland.
58	do	Fleetwing	6,500		do	1864	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
59	do	Orizimbo	8,000		do	1864	Cheticamp.
60	do	Northern Chief	9,000	6	do	1865	Cape Sable.
61	do	St. Lawrence	3,500		do	1865	Ragged Island, Newfoundland.
62	do	Minerva	3,500		do	1865	Near Pictou, Nova Scotia.
63	do	Colonel Allen	12,000		do	1865	Near Louisburg, Cape Breton.
64	do	George F. Marsh	31,000		do	1866	Magdalen Islands, with fares.
65	do	M. C. Rowe	10,500		do	1866	Newfoundland.
66	do	General Sheridan	12,000	4	do	1866	Cape Canso.
67	do	Martha and Eliza	4,200		do	1866	Magdalen Islands.
68	do	Areola	2,300		do	1866	Port Hood.
69	do	Fashion	4,500	12	do	1867	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
70	do	Water Spirit	9,075		do	1869	Cheticamp.

* With fares.

No.	Species of vessels.	Name of vessel.	Value.	Men lost.	Home port.	Date.	Where lost.
71	Schooner.	Abby H. Fraser.	\$6,000	.....	Gloucester.	1869	Cape Negro.
72	do	Pocumtuck	3,000	.....	do	1870	Ship Harbor, Nova Scotia.
73	do	George R. Bradford	7,500	6	do	1870	Newfoundland.
74	do	Dauntless.	8,000	12	do	1870	Bay St. Lawrence, at sea.
75	do	Exchange	1,300	.....	do	1871	Cow Bay, Cape Breton.
76	do	Lizzie A. Tarr	7,300	.....	do	1871	Manitou, Labrador.
77	do	Elsineur	1,700	.....	do	1871	Argyle, Nova Scotia.
78	do	River Queen	7,900	.....	do	1871	Nova Scotia.
79	do	Samuel E. Sawyer.	6,760	.....	do	1871	Magdalen Islands.
80	do	Thorwaldson	7,800	7	do	1873	Newfoundland.
81	do	Southern Cross	7,000	.....	do	1872	Do.
82	do	Tana H. Burnham.	7,500	.....	do	1873	Sable Island, Nova Scotia.
83	do	Charles E. Dame	7,000	18	do	1873	Bay St. Lawrence, North Cape, Prince Edward Island.
84	do	Angie T. Friend	4,700	12	do	1873	At sea.
85	do	Royal Arch.	6,500	14	do	1873	White Head.
86	do	Samuel Crowell.	6,500	15	do	1873	At sea.
87	do	James G. Tarr	6,400	18	do	1873	Do.
88	do	Eldorado	1,300	7	do	1873	White Head, Nova Scotia.
89	do	Mary T. Hind.	3,000	.....	do	1873	Cape Canso, Nova Scotia.
90	do	Far West.	2,200	.....	do	1873	Port Mulgrave, Nova Scotia.
91	do	Ceutenion.	1,000	.....	do	1873	Ship Harbor, Nova Scotia.
92	do	Typhoon	3,780	.....	do	1873	Harbor De Bar.
93	do	D. H. Mansfield.	2,100	.....	do	1873	Magdalen Islands.
94	do	William Y. Dale	5,800	9	do	1873	Newfoundland.
95	do	Tana A. Dodd.	7,000	.....	do	1874	Do.
96	do	Mary Y. Dennis.	6,500	.....	do	1874	Passage from Newfoundland.
97	do	Carry Francis	7,500	.....	do	1875	Malpeque Bar.
98	do	Bloomisdale	2,500	.....	do	1875	Woody Island, Cape Breton.
99	do	Monadnock	7,900	.....	do	1875	Magdalen Islands.
100	do	Hattie M. Lyons	4,900	.....	do	1875	Cape Hogan, Cape Breton.
101	do	John M. Dodge	3,000	.....	do	1875	Old Man's Ledge, Yr., Nova Scotia.
102	do	Earl Ellsworth.	5,500	.....	do	1876	Magdalen Islands.
103	do	Reliance	3,600	.....	do	1876	Canso.
104	do	Fisher	1,755	.....	do	1876	Louisburg.
105	do	George Peabody	2,100	.....	do	1876	Bay St. Lawrence.

GLoucester, May 14, 1877.

The above list comprehends the names of the vessels lost, their valuation, and the number of men lost, from the district of Gloucester, from 1830 to January 1, 1877; said vessels were mostly engaged in the Bay of St. Lawrence fisheries and in the immediate neighborhood of the British Provinces. It does not include partial losses, or single, individual, or personal loss or injury to business, etc.

F. J. BABSON,
Collector District Gloucester.

Q. It is taken from the official reports of your office?—A. It is. I may say that for about all the report you may see in the various publications regarding Gloucester, the information is derived from the customs-office.

By Mr. Davies:

Q. That does not show the vessels lost on the American shore?—A. No.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. How far back does the return go?—A. To 1830.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. The returns show where each vessel was lost?—A. Where it was lost was reported at the office.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. It is not a comparative statement of the losses in the gulf and on your shores in the same period?—A. No.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. From your official records can you tell me whether the tonnage of Gloucester has increased or diminished from 1869, and in what branches of business ?—A. I have here a copy from the books of the tonnage of Gloucester from 1869 and number of vessels employed in the different branches of business.

Witness read the following statement :

Statement of the tonnage of the district of Gloucester, June 30, of each year.

1869.	510	vessels licensed for fisheries.....	24,891.04
	51	vessels licensed for coasting.....	2,777.80
	13	vessels licensed for foreign trade.....	1,416.09
	574	Total.....	29,084.93
1870.	501	vessels licensed for fisheries.....	24,946.96
	57	vessels licensed for coasting.....	3,433.71
	12	vessels foreign trade.....	1,900.19
	570	Total.....	30,280.86
1871.	426	vessels licensed for fisheries.....	24,274.81
	65	vessels licensed for coasting.....	4,318.36
	7	vessels foreign trade.....	1,196.24
	558	Total.....	29,789.31
1872.	448	vessels licensed for fisheries.....	22,174.57
	57	vessels licensed for coasting.....	4,475.90
	13	vessels foreign trade.....	1,093.42
	528	Total.....	27,743.89
1873.	420	vessels licensed for fisheries.....	21,364.59
	94	vessels licensed for coasting.....	7,110.01
	7	vessels foreign trade.....	507.71
	521	Total.....	28,982.34
1874.	391	vessels licensed for fisheries.....	20,421.32
	99	vessels licensed for coasting.....	7,947.00
	6	vessels foreign trade.....	407.04
	496	Total.....	28,775.36
1875.	394	vessels licensed for fisheries.....	20,646.44
	97	vessels licensed for coasting.....	8,531.51
	4	vessels foreign trade.....	555.31
	495	Total.....	29,733.26
1876.	414	vessels licensed for fisheries.....	22,408.31
	100	vessels licensed for coasting.....	11,121.50
	8	vessels foreign trade.....	1,051.46
	522	Total.....	34,581.27
1877.	409	vessels licensed for fishing.....	22,424.55
	98	vessels licensed for coasting.....	9,148.00
	10	vessels foreign trade.....	1,795.41
	517	Total.....	33,367.96

By Mr. Davies :

Q. Have you produced a statement from the custom-house books of Gloucester showing the number of vessels engaged in the fisheries during the Reciprocity Treaty ?—A. I cannot say that I have directly. I don't know whether I have furnished it or not to Mr. Foster under the certificate of the office.

Q. You have not put it in your evidence ?—A. Not at the present time.

Q. Can you produce it for me now ?—A. I cannot without referring to the books of the office.

Q. Are the books of the office in Halifax ?—A. No.

Q. Did you bring down with you any such statement ?—A. No; I did not.

Q. When you say the statement might have been given to Mr. Foster, you mean you might have given it to him in Boston ?—A. I gave him in Boston a number of statements relating to the business of Gloucester, and there might have been a statement of that kind among them. I cannot give a statement of that kind to-day, because I cannot remember what classification I made for him with regard to vessels.

Q. This statement you have submitted only commences with 1869 ?—A. Yes.

Q. Why did you take that year to begin with ?—A. I had no special reason.

Q. Is it not curious you should have commenced with that year ?—A. It is nothing very curious.

Q. What special benefit was there in a paper showing the tonnage from 1869 to 1877 ? Does it cover a period of years which would enable any one to form a fair idea of the trade of Gloucester ?—A. It would simply show the business of Gloucester in the years from 1869 to 1877. It covers a period embraced by the Washington Treaty, and a period when there was no Reciprocity Treaty in operation.

Q. It is of value only as showing the actual tonnage during those specified years ?—A. That is all. I think there have been reports in Gloucester papers by which it appeared that the tonnage was 30,000 tons, and the impression was conveyed that it was all engaged in the fisheries. I culled that statement to show where the gain has been for the past few years.

Q. Those vessels that are classed in the statement as coasting vessels, what are we to understand they are engaged in ?—A. Perhaps you will allow me to explain how we come to have a larger tonnage. A few years ago three-masted schooners were a specialty with our people, more especially for the carrying of coal from the State of Pennsylvania, and two, three, or four vessels of larger tonnage were built for that purpose ; and, of course, we have a large number of vessels carrying stone from Rockport. That embraces about all our coasting trade. The large gain is principally in the three-masted schooners.

Q. Do you wish the Commission to imply from this statement that the fisheries of Gloucester have decreased ?—A. I have no wish in the matter, except to put the plain facts before the Commissioners, and they may draw their own inferences.

Q. Is that your own mind, your own impression ?—A. I have an impression that the number of vessels is decreasing ; the tonnage is very nearly the same. The vessels that are being built are of large tonnage, and more able to prosecute the different branches of the fisheries.

Q. Does not the statement show an increase in the number of vessels ?—A. Not to a very great extent ; it does for the last two years.

Q. Compare 1869 with 1877. In 1869 the tonnage was 29,084, and in

1877 33,367 tons, which is an increase, though not a very large increase?—A. You will observe that in 1869 24,000 tons were engaged in fishing as against 22,000 tons in 1877. The gain is on the coasting.

Q. I suppose I would be correct in saying that in an equal number of years, immediately preceding 1869, the tonnage had largely increased. For instance, from 1859 to 1869?—A. I could not say about that without referring to the books.

Q. Does it not strike you as curious that you have come here to give statistics to the Commission, and yet do not produce from your books statistics showing what the tonnage was at the time of the commencement of the Reciprocity Treaty?—A. I am perfectly willing to produce them. My only object is to place the facts as nearly as I can before the Commission.

Q. There were some statements put in by you. You know nothing about them?—A. Not personally.

Q. Who handed them to you?—A. They have been sent to me since I have been here.

Q. Have you read them?—A. I have looked them over.

Q. You know nothing about them?—A. Not of my own personal knowledge.

Q. You did not prepare them?—A. No.

Q. You had nothing to do with their preparation?—A. No.

Q. You cannot speak of the correctness of the preparation?—A. Other than I can vouch for the fidelity of my own officer.

Q. Those papers were put in your hands, and you handed them to the Commission?—A. They were sent to me.

Q. It appears from the affidavit that those papers were furnished to Mr. Blatchford by certain firms in Gloucester, and were not made up by him?—A. Not made up by him, but he went to the firms direct.

Q. And asked them for the statements, and they gave them to him?—A. Yes.

Q. Those statements are not under oath?—A. No; they are not sworn, except so far as Mr. Blatchford's affidavit covers them.

Mr. DAVIES asked if it was intended to put in the statements in regard to the business done by the Gloucester firms.

Mr. FOSTER said that Mr. Davies, in cross-examining one of the Gloucester witnesses had expressed a desire to have a statement of the business of all the firms in Gloucester, and accordingly he (Mr. Foster) sent down to Gloucester and had that statement obtained. He put it in for whatever value may be attached to it. It bore a somewhat striking resemblance to the return of the catches made by the collector at Port Mulgrave, printed as an appendix to the British Case, except that these contain the catches from 1869 to 1876 or 1877, while the collector at Port Mulgrave gave them for 1873, 1874, and 1877, omitting 1875 and 1876.

Mr. DAVIES said he asked for a statement covering the period of years during which the Reciprocity Treaty was in force, and these statements did not cover that period, but, on the contrary, covered a period of time which he did not ask for and did not want.

Mr. FOSTER said he did not hear anything about the period of the Reciprocity Treaty until a few days ago, and he had told Mr. Davies that if a counsel was sent to examine the books of merchants of Gloucester, they could have access to them.

Mr. DAVIES submitted that there was an important difference between the submission of the Port Mulgrave returns and these returns. The former were embodied in the British Reply, while the latter they could not cross-examine upon, because the witness said he knew nothing

about the contents, and they must be accepted by the Commission without cross-examination.

Mr. FOSTER said he put in the statement to resist the exhibit that appeared on the appendix E, "Documents filed with the secretary of the Halifax Commission, and read at the sitting held on the 30th day of July, 1877, in support of the case of Her Britannic Majesty's Government," being a "return of United States mackerel-fishing vessels and their catch in 1873, as reckoned at port Mulgrave, N. S., by the collector of customs at that port," and a similar return for the next year. At the end it was signed David Murray, collector of Port Mulgrave, February 9, 1875.

Mr. DAVIES said the statement from the collector at Port Mulgrave had been before the American counsel almost since the commencement of the sittings, and they had had ample opportunities of ascertaining its truth and cross-examining witnesses on it. The papers now sought to be put in were not verified in any sense whatever. They appeared, however, to show a comparison of the catches on the American shore and in the bay, and yet omitted the time during which the vessels were employed in their respective trips. It would be remembered that they always cross-examined on that point, holding that the value of the comparison depended on the length of time the vessels were employed.

Mr. FOSTER said he thought such a position should not be taken by gentlemen who had introduced hearsay evidence from the beginning to the end of the case, and who on 30th July put in those Port Mulgrave statements for selected years, omitting the years 1875 and 1876, when it was well known the fisheries failed in the gulf, and refused to produce the returns for the years upon his request, which he put on the motion-book, that there might be no mistake about it. If an appeal was made to him with regard to the evidence, he thought the evidence he now proffered was quite as good as the statement put in from the collector of Port Mulgrave. But if what the British counsel really wanted was information on the subject, let them accept the offer that had been made and send some one to Gloucester and have the whole returns taken. The statement he submitted stood like all statistical evidence, none of which was based upon the oath of the original source.

Mr. THOMSON cited the rules regarding notice to produce, and said that by the notice given by Mr. Foster he required them to produce substantive evidence, and if he had been right he might have required them to give any evidence he thought proper. As to the statement of the collector of Port Mulgrave, it was put in with the British Reply. The British counsel had not time to test the accuracy of the statement that had been tendered. In the former instance it was not put in as part of the evidence, but was filed as part of the case in reply; but in the latter the statement was put in as evidence.

Mr. FOSTER said the British counsel had, hundreds of times, put in as evidence what somebody told somebody else.

Mr. THOMSON said they had given hearsay evidence because it was admitted originally, and the American counsel commenced it themselves by cross-examining on hearsay statements. In this inquiry it was not possible they could carry it on without giving to a very great extent hearsay evidence; but the moment a tabular statement was presented, verified by no one, and not coming in as part of the answer on the American side, they had the right to refer to the rules to see whether it fell with the evidence to be admitted. He held it did not. Moreover, it was put in on the very last day.

Mr. FOSTER. Whose last day?

Mr. THOMSON. Yours?

Mr. FOSTER. Certainly.

Mr. KELLOGG asked to what rule the British counsel referred.

Mr. FOSTER said the British counsel put in their statistics, a mass of them, on the last day of their evidence.

Mr. THOMSON read the eleventh rule.

Hon. Mr. KELLOGG said that a modification of the rule in regard to affidavits had been assented to. Aside from that, no question could arise except that of relevancy. If the agents or counsel on either side assured the board that, in their view, that evidence was relevant to the hearing, he would be very slow himself to refuse its admission. It happened that it was late in the hearing, but all evidence had to come in some time or other.

Mr. THOMSON read the affidavit of Mr. Blatchford, and said it was to the effect that he went and asked the gentlemen to give him those statements, and he swore that they were copies of the statements which they were pleased to furnish him.

Mr. FOSTER said the British counsel put in a statement from George Murray, he being the collector of Port Mulgrave, of United States mackerel fishing vessels for 1873 and 1874. Mr. Murray stated the number of United States vessels, the number of barrels; and in regard to where they were caught, stated: "The most of those mackerel were caught about Prince Edward Island, small size mackerel; the best and largest were caught at Magdalen Islands. This may not be a true number of barrels; only gathered this from the vessel men; they call them that quantity; it is not much out of the way either way." When he found those statements he called for similar statements for the two following years, 1875 and 1876, and he had kept reminding the counsel about them. One of the English counsel in cross-examining one of the United States witnesses, did so from a paper which they said was Mr. Murray's statement of what American vessels had caught this year, whereupon he (Mr. Foster) called for it, and got it in as part of the cross-examination.

Mr. WEATHERBE asked if the paper was not an official report made by Mr. Murray to the department.

Mr. FOSTER. No.

Mr. WEATHERBE said if the paper was of the character of one prepared since the treaty went into operation, and to be presented before the Commission, the rules should be conformed to, and it should be presented under oath.

Mr. FOSTER said the paper was extracted from the cross-examination. It was called, "Account of American Mackerel Catches in North Bay, 1877."

Sir ALEXANDER GALT said he did not remember that the statement was put in as evidence.

Mr. FOSTER said it was not put in as independent evidence, but, after ascertaining what it was on which the witness was cross-examined, he had stated that he was entitled to have the paper put in.

Sir ALEXANDER GALT said the question was as to which side put in the paper.

Mr. FOSTER said that by the twenty-fourth article of the Treaty of Washington the Commissioners "shall be bound to receive such oral or written testimony as either government may present." He had called upon an official of the Government of the United States to obtain statistics with regard to this matter, and, in pursuance of that call, he had done so. The statistics came certified from the office, and, on behalf of

the Government of the United States, he (Mr. Foster) presented them as evidence *quantum valuit*.

Mr. THOMSON said that hearsay evidence, though it was not usually admitted by judicial tribunals, was admitted of this description: evidence of information parties had obtained in the course of conversation in regard to the particular matter in hand, at a time, in nine instances out of ten, when they had no reason to know of this particular tribunal or inquiry, and the persons, therefore, had no object to overreach. That was not the character of the evidence now offered; this consisted of hearsay evidence obtained from different firms in Gloucester, for the especial purpose of affecting this tribunal, and made by no person under oath. If the official had visited the different stores and asked the different persons to show him their books, and if he had sworn on examining those books the statements submitted were true copies, then it would be evidence. But here were people under no oath, but knowing well that an inquiry was going on in which their country was interested, who gave to the official just what they thought proper. True, he might state that he believed the statements true copies from the books, but unfortunately the Commission had no knowledge of the fact. That was the difference between the testimony which had been admitted and that now offered.

Mr. FOSTER said he understood from the secretary that the Port Mulgrave statement had not been printed as part of the evidence; it appeared in the cross-examination, which was as follows:

Q. Do you know anything about other vessels? Some have got as many as 270 barrels, from that down? I will read from the returns: (Reading the names of vessels and catches.) These are gathered from the returns reported by them.

Mr. FOSTER. Do you submit that to our inspection.

Mr. DAVIES. Certainly. I would not have read it otherwise. (Explain in answer to Mr. Foster that these are returns of vessels that have been in the bay and gone home, as they reported themselves at Canso.)

Q. Now, have you heard of any of these vessels that made any of these returns?—A. I have heard of some of these vessels writing home.

Q. Have the returns you have heard accorded with those I have read?—A. I should think not.

Q. You don't know whether these returns are correct or not?—A. I don't know that they are.

Q. If they were would you be inclined to modify your statement as to the catches in the gulf?—A. No; I would not.

Q. You still persist in the statement you made?—A. I don't anything about it.

Q. But supposing it correct, if it turns out to be correct, from comparison with published returns in Gloucester papers?—A. Well, that might perhaps have the same information upon which that is based.

Q. You would consider the reports in Gloucester papers to be incorrect?—A. I didn't say any such thing.

Q. Would you place reliance upon them?—A. As a general thing I would.

Q. What did you mean by saying that the Gloucester papers might have the same information as that I have read?—A. The crews sometimes report more than they actually catch.

Q. Then we cannot believe the reports we see in those papers?—A. Well, there is a difference between sea barrels and packed barrels. Perhaps the mackerel would fall short.

Q. That is by the difference between sea barrels and packed barrels?—A. Yes.

Q. But could not any person easily allow for that?

Hon. Mr. KELLOGG asks if the returns just read are official.

Mr. DAVIES explains that the returns are those which the vessels make as they pass through the Gut of Canso—that they are not official, but that the information is gathered by persons engaged by the inspector to ascertain the catch from the captains.

If this had not gone in with the evidence, he proposed to put it in as a paper on which the witness was cross-examined.

Mr. DAVIES said that when cross-examining a witness, with respect to the number of American vessels in the bay, and the number of barrels they caught, he held up a paper in his hand and asked whether the

vessel caught such a quantity. Mr. Foster asked him if it was a return, and he (Mr. Davies), said it was a return, and explained that it was in no sense an official one. Mr. Foster asked him, at the close of the examination, if he would let him see it, and he gave him the document. It was, however, only part of what he had held in his hand; it was in no sense an official record; it did not purport to be such, and was not read by him as such; but was only used by him for the purpose of cross-examination.

Mr. FOSTER said, if the other part was produced, he would put it in.

Sir ALEXANDER GALT said he did not think Mr. Foster could put in a return of the other side.

Mr. FOSTER reread the cross-examination referred to, and said it covered the paper.

Sir ALEXANDER GALT asked whether Mr. Foster or Mr. Ford put in the return, for some one must put it in and be responsible for it.

Mr. FOSTER said a paper forming a subject matter of cross-examination was at the disposal of the counsel on both sides of the case, and if the counsel opposed to the one who cross-examined, calls for the paper, it must be produced. When produced and inspected, he had the right to put it in as he pleased, not as independent evidence of his own, but as part of the subject matter of the cross-examination. That question came up in courts frequently in this way. A counsel cross-examines a witness as to the contents of a letter the witness is said to have written, and the letter is introduced by the cross-examining counsel by way of contradicting the witness, but it is incompetent to be introduced as substantial evidence on either side. Then, as there has been cross-examination of the witness upon it, the party has the right to have the letter read in the case.

Sir ALEXANDER GALT. Who puts the return in?

Mr. FOSTER. I put it in, not as substantive evidence on my side, but as a paper drawn out from the other side, which the mode of their cross-examination entitles me to have in the case.

Mr. THOMSON said there was no such rule of evidence known to British courts as that laid down by Mr. Foster. Counsel may for the purpose of cross-examination produce a paper and ask a witness whether he had written a certain statement at variance with those he was then making, but before counsel could do that he must have the written statement in his hand and submit it to the judge, and satisfy him that he was not attempting to frighten the witness by an imaginary paper. The witness was then requested to state whether such a statement was made by him in writing; but that gave the opposing counsel no right to take the paper. It remained entirely with the counsel as to what use he should make of it afterward to contradict the statements of the witness during the examination; if the witness admitted that he had made such a written statement, then he might be asked as to how he reconciled the testimony he had given with the written testimony he had given at that time. Such a rule as that mentioned was unknown to any British court—that the fact of a counsel cross-examining a witness on a paper, gives the control of the paper to the opposing counsel. He had never heard of such rule in any American court, though, of course, he would not attempt to place his opinion regarding the rules of United States courts against those of Mr. Foster. If Mr. Foster, as agent of the United States, intended to take the paper and put it in evidence by reason of it having been in the hands of one of the British counsel for the purpose of cross-examination, he must take it and put it in as part of his evidence, vouching for its authenticity, and being responsible for its correctness.

Hon. Mr. KELLOGG asked what was the motion in regard to the paper.

Mr. THOMSON said he understood Mr. Foster was offering it in evidence.

Mr. DANA said he did not so understand it. A question arose as to whether the paper was or was not in evidence. The Secretary thought it was not put in, and the Agent of the United States thought it was in. If it was in, no motion could be made for withdrawing it; if it was not in, the question was not whether they should now put it in, but whether it was not an error that it was not in. Their position was that the paper went into the case from the nature of the cross-examination, and if there was a mistake made in not handing the paper to the Secretary, or in the Secretary not understanding it was put in, they could rectify it now, not as testimony offered by one side or the other side now, but as something that heretofore should have been in the case. There was no very great difference in the common law as administered in the United States, Great Britain, and the colonies. It was all founded on reason. Suppose a cross-examining counsel asks a witness whether he wrote a certain paper, then on that paper being produced by him, not as evidence on his own side, but to contradict or impeach the character of the witness, or to diminish the weight of his testimony, and the paper is made the subject-matter of cross-examination, that cross-examination goes on the record, if the proceeding is by record, and passes into the hands of the jury, if the proceeding is at common law, and an essential part, in order that the cross-examination may be understood, is the paper. If counsel produced a paper and cross-examined a witness upon it, and had the cross-examination entered on the record, and then thought it would suit him better to have the paper on which the cross-examination was based in his pocket and put it there, in what position would the witness stand on the record? Any judge, reading the cross-examination, would say that he could not understand the witness or form an opinion as to the value of his testimony unless he saw the paper. In such cases it is considered an essential part of the cross-examination, and counsel cannot withdraw it and put it in his pocket. The jury has the right, in order to understand the testimony of the witness, to see the paper on which the questions were founded. In the present case, Mr. Foster had read the cross-examination of the witness, and the paper produced for the purpose of his cross-examination. Their position simply was that the paper was an essential part of the cross-examination, or was a sufficient part of the cross examination to authorize either party who desired it to put it into the case that the cross examination might be understood. The party who produced it might put it in, not as original testimony to prove his case, but as something which, under the oral statements of the witness, affects the witness. If the statements of the witness went into the record without the paper on which he was cross-examined, he was affected unfairly. The court would, no doubt, declare that as counsel had seen fit to cross-examine the witness on the paper, in order that everything may be understood and justice done to the witness, the paper must go in with the cross-examination. Mr. Foster had supposed the paper was already in the case; he (Mr. Dana) could not say he did so, for he had forgotten the transaction. He thought Mr. Thomson had referred to some other point, for it could not be held that counsel could cross-examine a witness from a paper, and say to the court and opposing counsel, "I insist on the answers of the witness going down, but I also insist upon putting the paper into the fire."

Mr. THOMSON said that no witness could be cross-examined on a paper

in the sense referred to by Mr. Dana, except in regard to a paper of which he had personally given evidence, or else in regard to a paper signed by himself. It was impossible for a witness to be cross-examined on a paper, except under such circumstances—either as regards a paper about which he had volunteered to give evidence and undertaken to hold himself forth as having a personal knowledge of it, or in a case where a witness has written a paper and holds himself responsible for the contents. When counsel holds up a paper, which it is not pretended is an official return, and asks questions from it, how does that prejudice the witness? He has the privilege of stating whether certain things are true or false, and his answers are recorded. Counsel might have all the names and information down in his brief, and how was the witness injured by such a course? It had been said that the court could not understand the testimony unless the paper was put in. The testimony stood fairly enough. Mr. Davies had read what he pleased from the paper and asked the witness if such was correct or incorrect; that was all. Whatever was said by Mr. Davies, and the answers of the witness to the question, were taken down. He did not wish to throw any difficulty in the way, and was quite prepared to discuss the question as if it had arisen at the time of the cross-examination. If the American counsel had the right on that day to take the paper out of the hands of Mr. Davies and put it in evidence, they had the right now. Mr. Davies handed the paper over at the request of Mr. Foster, but he was not bound to do so unless he pleased. Mr. Foster could not have put in the paper unless Mr. Davies had been pleased to give it to him, and no court would have obliged him to do so. That paper having been handed over to Mr. Foster as a matter of courtesy, if he chose to offer it in evidence, they did not object, but he could not put it in as a matter of right, and make it part of the British evidence. If Mr. Foster offered it in evidence, they would treat it as American evidence wholly.

Mr. DANA said that in Massachusetts, and he thought the United States generally, counsel were not permitted to cross-examine a witness from a paper.

Hon. Mr. KELLOGG said he recollected the circumstance very well, and he had understood from what had then passed between Mr. Davies and Mr. Foster, as to whether the paper should be admitted or not, that it was given to Mr. Foster, as he supposed, in the view of having it put in; he did not, however, know what the intention was.

Mr. FOSTER said that a large part of the paper was read in evidence.

SIR ALEXANDER GALT inquired what was the value of the return.

Mr. FOSTER said that if the counsel had been pleased to cross-examine on a chapter out of the book of Job, after he had done, he (Mr. Foster) would have been entitled to have that chapter placed before the Commission, as the basis of his cross-examination. Mr. Thomson had said that they could not cross-examine on a paper in that way, but the answer to this was, that the counsel had done this; and this being the case, how in the world could he be deprived of the benefit of it?

He had supposed it was understood, that this paper was entered to be printed with other matter; and wanting a copy of it, he had obtained this from the Secretary that night. Certainly, he had supposed that the paper was in, else he would certainly have renewed the controversy the next morning. Having deliberately cross-examined on this paper with the view of forcing the witness to say that it was correct, and that he would not dissent from the statement, the inquiries "Are you going to be rash enough to disagree with these written statements?" and "Will you venture to say that this Mr. Murray, of Port Mulgrave, has not better opportunities than you have of knowing how these matters stand?"

were to be read between the lines in Mr. Davies's questions. This paper purported to be a return; they might call it official, non-official, or quasi-official, he did not care what, but it was presented to induce the witness to agree to the statements read to him; and this being the case, if this did not bring it into the case, as part of the cross-examination, why, he was completely mistaken.

The PRESIDENT. The decision of the Commission is that the paper shall be put in.

The return in question is as follows:

Account of American mackerel catches in North Bay.

Date.	Name.	Barrels.	Date.	Home or refitted.	Remarks.
1877.			1877.		
July 2	Macleod	170	Sept. 19	Refitted	
9	Flying Cloud	205	Sept. 4	Home	
10	Alice	235	July 25	do	
10	Hyperion	240	Aug. 17	do	
10	C. C. Davis	90	Sept. 7	Refitted	
11	J. J. Clarke	240	Aug. 16	Home	
11	Ceyenne	300	Aug. 19	do	
12	Alice M. Lewis	200	Aug. 21	do	
14	Marion Grimes	150	Aug. 30	do	
14	Frederic Gerring, jr.	330	Sept. 22	do	
14	George B. Loring	250	Sept. 17	Refitted	
17	Fleetwood	90	Aug. 24	Home	
17	Falcon (supposed)	60	Aug. 23	do	
17	Eastern Queen	120	Aug. 10	do	210. Back on second trip Aug. 28.
17	Amos Cutler	180	Aug. 25	do	
17	Rambler	270	Sept. 22	Refitted	
18	Harvest Home	235	Sept. 13	do	
18	Martha C	170	Aug. 24	Home	
19	E. A. Horton	235	Sept. 22	Refitted	
21	Gertie Lewis	127	Aug. 23	Home	
21	John Wesley	190	Sept. 2	do	
21	Idela Surall	150	Sept. 13	Refitted	
21	Flash	85	Sept. 4	Home	
21	Onward	117½	Sept. 2	Refitted	
21	Miantinomah	101	Aug. 25	Home	
21	David F. Low	220	Sept. 12	Refitted twice	
23	Nettie Moore	70	Aug. 10	Home	
26	Lilly Dale	130	Aug. 24	Refitted	
27	Ellen Dale	88	Aug. 23	Home	
27	Seth Stockbridge	None	Aug. 24	do	
27	F. L. Mayo	150	Sept. 8	Refitted	
27	B. F. Some	160	Sept. 12	do	
28	Maggie Power	90	Aug. 16	Home	
28	Clara L. Dyer	90	Sept. 8	Refitted	
28	Ocean King	110	Aug. 30	do	
30	Eunice P. Newcombe	85	Sept. 4	Home	
Aug. 2	Oasis	60	Aug. 23	do	
2	Challenge	170	Sept. 24	Refitted	
2	Helen M. Crosby	30	Aug. 21	Home	
2	Lizzie E. Hopkins	150	Sept. 24	do	
6	Etta Gott	226	Sept. 14	Refitted	
6	Rattler	170	Sept. 20	do	
7	M. J. Elliott	60	Aug. 24	do	To repair foresail, and went back.
7	Edmund Burke	230	Sept. 21	Home	
7	A. C. Newhall	140	Sept. 24	do	
7	Roger Williams	80	Aug. 31	do	
7	Lillian M. Warner	120	Aug. 21	do	
7	Vidette	125	Sept. 19	Refitted	
7	Wm. A. Penn	160	Sept. 25	Home	
8	Lizzie Poor	150	Sept. 20	Refitted	
8	Lady Woodbury	220	Sept. 24	Home	
8	Martha A. Brewer	150	Sept. 20	Refitted	
9	Geo. B. McClellan	150	Sept. 24	Refitted	
9	Waterfall	85	Sept. 20	Home	
14	Grey Eagle	16	Sept. 4	do	
16	Madawaska Maid	None	Aug. 24	do	
17	Cyrena Ann	50	Sept. 10	do	
17	Alice M. Gould	None	Aug. 21	do	
21	Fred. P. Frye	5	Aug. 25	do	
21	Eleanor B. Conwell	85	Sept. 24	Refitted	
Total		8,365½			

This list is from vessels being in for supplies and going home, not including what is in the bay now. Only one supposed trip in the lot. Captain would not tell how many he had.

D. MURRAY, JR.

Codfish-trips.

Date.	Name.	Quintals.	Date.	Home or refitted.	Remarks.
1877.			1877.		
June 21	Ada K. Damon	1,375	Aug. 28	Home	Time, 4 months from Banks.
21	Ben. T. Crockett	1,400	Aug. 30	do	2.9 months from North Bay.
19	Logus	1,100	Sept. 4	do	2½ months from North Bay.
25	Samuel Ober	900	Sept. 7	do	2.13 months from North Bay.
May 21	Lucknow	1,100	Sept. 7	do	3.17 months from North Bay.
25	Oliver Cromwell	900	Sept. 17	do	3.23 months from North Bay.
28	Kokana	900	Sept. 19	do	3.22 months from North Bay.
20	Flavilla	1,000	Sept. 21	do	4.1 months from North Bay.
17	Oriola	1,100	Sept. 21	do	4.4 months from North Bay.
21	A. Payne	1,000	Sept. 24	do	4.0 months from North Bay.
21	Freemont	900	Sept. 24	do	4.3 months from North Bay.
18	Bloomer	1,200	Sept. 24	do	4.6 months from North Bay.
18	Blondel	910	Sept. 24	do	4.6 months from North Bay.
17	Gen. Scott	900	Sept. 25	do	4.8 months from North Bay.
21	Vandelia	800	Sept. 25	do	4.4 months from North Bay.
25	Julian	800	Sept. 22	Lost at Port Hood.	
25	Arcola	800	Sept. 25	Home	4.0 months from North Bay.
24	Geo. Water	900	Sept. 13	do	3.20 months from North Bay.
		16,600		Quintals codfish from North Bay on trawls.	
		2,000		Quintals codfish on trawls, small trips.	
	Total	18,600		American vessels.	

There were a fleet of small vessels which went home from early trip before the boat was out. This includes American vessels only. Have these figures from captains and crews.

D. MURRAY, JR.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1877.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. When you were examining the books for the purpose of making up the return of vessels lost, did it occur to you to compare the proportion of vessels lost in the bay with that lost on George's Bank ?—A. No. I did not examine them for that purpose. I did not have a return on that point.

Q. How was this return prepared ; you say, I see, in some cases, that the vessels were lost "at sea" ?—A. You will observe, with regard to the preparation of reports of that kind, that we get from the owners the best information they can give in this respect ; they report every vessel that is lost. I could not swear to the exact accuracy of every report ; these reports are prepared in the same manner as all custom-house business is usually done.

Q. Is this information obtained from the owners at the time of the loss of vessels ?—A. Yes, as nearly as possible, as a general thing. I can only tell in this regard for my own term of office. We have always secured this information as soon as vessels are lost.

Q. If I went to the books of your office, would I find the statement contained in this return on their face, about the time these vessels were lost, as you have it copied out here ?—A. You would find some of them at the end of the year when we collect the information—when we are obliged to make up the list of vessels ; and we drop from the list those which we cannot carry over into the next year.

Q. Some I would find there ?—A. Yes.

Q. And some I would not find ?—A. For previous years you would find them at the end of the year.

Q. Would I find them all there ?—A. Yes, all we carry over ; we have a list of vessels for 1876 ; and at the end of the year, in January, we make up a new list and transmit it to the department—in which we put all the vessels owned in the district and how they are disposed of, stating whether they have been sold out of the district or whatever way they may have been disposed of, or lost, or wherever they may have

been transferred—we make up a report showing exactly where they have gone.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. Annually ?—A. Yes; annually. We make up special reports in this relation.

By Mr. Davies :

Q. Is this compilation taken solely from your books ?—A. That is my clerk's report, prepared in the usual manner in which such things are done.

Q. Did your clerk compile this statement solely from the books of your office ?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he make any inquiries outside, in order to make it up ?—A. I think he took it from the books of the office.

Q. Did you examine the books to see whether this was the case or not ?—A. No, I did not.

Q. Is this in your handwriting ?—A. Yes: he gave me the names of the vessels as they came along, and I put them in.

Q. Is there a report made by the owner to your office at the time a vessel is lost ?—A. This has always been the case since I have held the office.

Q. Since when has that been ?—A. Since 1869, 8 years ago.

Q. And do you not know whether this was done previous to that ?—A. For the time previous to that, we took what was in the books.

Q. You cannot tell what was the practice previously in this respect ?—A. No.

Q. You cannot tell how the clerk made up the statement for the time previous to your term of office ?—A. I cannot tell; of course my clerk derived his information from the books.

Q. You cannot tell whether this was taken solely from the books; you have not examined the books ?—A. No; as I said before, the clerk did this. My business is simply executive, and I do not perform clerical work myself.

Q. Suppose that a vessel starts from the St. Lawrence and is not heard from; how is it entered ?—A. The owner gives the best information that he can on the subject.

Q. It is entered, lost at sea ?—A. Yes.

Q. This statement embraces the year of the great gale ?—A. It includes all the years back, until 1831.

Q. How did you arrive at these valuations ?—A. We got them from the office.

Q. At the time the vessels were lost ?—A. As near the time as possible.

Q. During the years in which these occurred, at any rate ?—A. Yes; a direct report is now required of us regarding every vessel that is lost; as soon as we know that a vessel is lost, we are obliged to make a report embracing the facts.

Q. Did that rule extend to 1831, when this list commences ?—A. No; those values were taken simply from the yearly returns.

Q. These are approximate values ?—A. They must be so, I think, as a general thing, except within the last 8 years.

Q. How did you obtain the valuation of the Amazon, the first vessel ?—A. That was probably the owner's report at the time when he made the report to the custom-house.

Q. You have never examined the books to see ?—A. No, not myself personally. I made it up from my clerk's return.

Q. I see that some vessels in the first part of the list are charged as if made to the Bay of Chaleurs; are you aware that formerly the Bay of St. Lawrence was called the Bay of Chaleurs?—A. Yes.

Q. When it speaks of the Bay of Chaleurs, I suppose that somewhere in the gulf is meant?—A. Yes.

Q. This list embraces Newfoundland too?—A. Yes.

Q. And the Banks?—A. If on the Banks, I suppose, offshore here. I think that all the places are designated as nearly correct as possible.

Q. Are they all fishing, or are some trading vessels?—A. I think that they are about all fishing-vessels.

Q. The lost vessels, Alexandria and Queen of Clippers, are charged for 1858 to Newfoundland; are you aware whether any fishing-vessels then went to Newfoundland?—A. In 1858?

Q. Yes.—A. O, yes; I think they did. I think that the Newfoundland frozen-herring business has been pursued for some time in American vessels.

Q. You do not accurately remember the first year when they went there?—A. No. The statement simply covers, as far as my memory is concerned, my own term of office. I was away previous to that time.

Q. Is there an entry in your books giving, for instance, the value of this vessel, the Alexandria, lost in 1858 at Newfoundland?—A. I presume so, from the report made by the clerk to me; that paper was prepared in the same manner as was the case with these other papers.

Q. Do you know what the total number is when added up—is it 105?—A. I think it is about 105.

Q. Down to the end of 1875, 101 vessels were lost in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Newfoundland fisheries, according to your return?—A. And on the coast of Nova Scotia, I suppose.

Q. This return embraces all the British provinces?—A. Yes.

Q. Of course they may have been lost on their way up from Gloucester?—A. Yes; I cannot say as to that.

Q. I find in Procter's book concerning the fisheries of Gloucester, which has been quoted here so frequently, a table giving the losses of fishing-vessels from 1830 to 1875 inclusive, the total number being 333 vessels; and the difference between your return and this return would represent vessels lost in fisheries other than those mentioned in your return?—A. Of course.

Q. One hundred and one during this period were lost in our fisheries, and 232 in yours?—A. I would say that most of those statistics are made up from our office.

Q. Have you made up a statement to show the percentage of loss? My attention is called to a statement written at the foot of this compilation, in which you say, "Said vessels were mostly engaged in the Bay of St. Lawrence fisheries, "Then evidently some of these vessels were not engaged in those fisheries?—A. Most certainly.

Q. They were traders probably?—A. They were engaged in other fisheries probably; they might have been engaged in the Bank fishery and still have been lost on the coast of Nova Scotia.

Q. There is also added, "And in the immediate neighborhood of the British provinces"?—A. You are to understand that our vessels fish off the British provinces, and their losses are reported to us by their owners for the different points wherever the vessel may have been lost, as nearly as can be ascertained. I suppose that is the idea which they wish to convey.

Q. When you wrote "were mostly engaged," you had in your mind the idea that some of them were engaged in other pursuits than those

which are specially mentioned?—A. I meant that they were engaged in fishing at other points besides the Bay of St. Lawrence about the British provinces; that is intended to cover the whole of the Nova Scotia and Newfoundland shores. They go in in case of storms.

Q. Have you never had occasion to ascertain the percentage of loss of your fishing-vessels?—A. Myself?

Q. Yes.—A. No, I have never made that a subject for specific statistics at any time.

Q. Do you know whether this loss exceeds $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.?—A. For the entire fleet?

Q. Yes.—A. I could not ascertain that without going into the figures.

Q. And you never have ascertained it?—A. No.

Q. Have you ascertained, in conversation with leading men, whether it has been more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.?—A. Not in that form.

Q. In what form have you done so?—A. We always understand that we lose from 10 to 15 vessels and from 100 to 150 men every year in our general fisheries.

Q. That does not show what the percentage is?—A. Not by any means.

Q. What percentage is this loss; for instance, would $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. insurance cover all such losses?—A. You mean whether $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole fleet is lost? I suppose that the loss would fully equal that.

Q. And you think it would not be more?—A. I know that it would not be a great deal more than that.

Q. And the difference between that and what was charged for insurance would represent the profits made?—A. I do not know what you mean.

Q. I want to ascertain the value of the vessels that leave Gloucester to pursue the fishing-business, and whether $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of that valuation would cover the loss that is incurred here?—A. Allow me one moment: I did not understand that question as applying to insurance. I thought you asked whether the loss amounted to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole number of the vessels.

Q. That is just the way in which I put it.—A. But as far as insurance is concerned, that is a matter of which I have no knowledge whatever.

Q. I want to ascertain what percentage of the fishing-vessels which leave Gloucester is lost?—A. Well, we generally lose from 10 to 15 every year, out of nearly 400 vessels.

Q. In the annual report of the Bureau of Statistics of the United States for 1876, on page 15, under the head of Trade with Canada, during the year ending the 30th of June, 1876, I find a table of values, which had been omitted in the returns of the United States customs-officers on the Canadian border, as appears from an official statement furnished by the Commissioner of Customs, amounting to \$10,507,563, as against \$15,596,224 for the preceding year: now, the fish exported from the United States into Canada by railway do not appear in any return, do they?—A. That is a thing with which I have never had anything to do.

Q. I thought you might know something of this trade, and be able to explain the discrepancy between the United States and Canadian returns?—A. That is a matter entirely beyond my jurisdiction; that comes by the Grand Trunk Railway, I think.

Q. You do not know whether they make any return of fish exports, or of trade that is thus carried on?—A. We have no experience of that kind at our office.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. Whenever you give an order to a clerk to make such a report as the one regarding the loss of vessels, you expect this to be done from the custom-house books and papers, and from nothing else?—A. Of course.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. In the return concerning lost vessels, do the coasters include the herring-fishing vessels?—A. No. The herring-fishing vessels all run under fishing licenses, with permits to touch and trade; these are papers issued from our office, allowing vessels to pursue any business under the laws of the United States. The coasting paper and the fishing license are different papers, confining, of course, those who run the vessels to sail under them, and to do such business as is specified in these licenses.

Q. Do vessels which take out fishing and trading licenses frequently change their business?—A. They cannot do so; they are not allowed to do it; they can only pursue the business for which they take out a license. A permit to touch and trade is given only for one voyage.

Q. If a vessel goes to Fortune Bay with a fishing license, and a touch and trade license, and returns to Gloucester, can she go out again without renewing her license to touch and trade?—A. A fishing license is given for one year; and a touch and trade license for a voyage; and at the end of such voyage, the vessel surrenders that permit. This permit is a peculiar paper, intended for that business only.

Mr. FOSTER. Unless I have made some accidental omission, may' it please the Commissioners, the case of the United States is now closed, with the exception of the case just spoken of, to wit: I propose, if permitted to put in, in case they come within a week, detailed reports from the inspector-general of the State of Massachusetts, showing the number of barrels of mackerel which have been packed in the State of Massachusetts, during a long series of years, which I think may be valuable, going back, in fact, I do not know how far. I understand that the fisheries statistical books of the British provinces are in the case.

Mr. THOMSON. Yes.

Mr. FOSTER. That is all.



APPENDIX M.

AFFIDAVITS PRODUCED ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

No. 1.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Freeman Hodgdon; age fifty-two years, I reside at Boothbay, State of Maine.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I pursued the business for twenty years. I have been in all the waters frequented by American and Canadian fishermen.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Yes. Thomas Berry has had more experience in the fishing business than any other man on our coast. John Hodgdon, Joseph Maddocks.

4. A copy of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18, to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod, Mackerel, Hake, Halibut, Herring, and many others of less importance.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this, please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. The quantity is very great. I do not know exactly.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? I cannot tell. I should think the value of fish caught

by American subjects and that caught by British subjects was about equal.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State; and if so, to what extent and value? They do to a small extent.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? I cannot tell.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? I think not.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? I do not know.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Nearly all are deep-sea fisheries. Occasionally they find it advantageous to fish in-shore for mackerel, but they can usually do better outside, even for mackerel.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel and Herring chiefly, and sometimes Cod-fish.

15. If you state that the inshore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Much the larger part are taken off shore. There have been many years when the in-shore fisheries for mackerel were worthless. The fish played off-shore the whole season.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? The larger part are taken outside of the in-shore limits. Mackerel are found in the Gulf in summer and not in-shore.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial inshore waters? Perhaps the inshore fishery for Mackerel is injured somewhat. But the great quantity of bait thrown over by American fishermen inshore tolls the fish in, and so makes it the more convenient for Canadian fishermen.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? I think they are.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? Hew much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Porgies. It is all taken on the American coast. None is taken on the Provincial coasts. The principal part is taken within three miles of shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the

cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. To fit out a hundred ton cod-fisherman costs from, *from* \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00, and they make two trips per year, usually. It costs a little less to fit a vessel for Mackereling. Our vessels are all manned upon the shares.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same question as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is, and the reason for it. They have the advantage of us in the cost of vessels, and in cost of salt. What the difference amounts to I cannot tell; but it is considerably in their favor.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I was master of a fisherman some twelve years, and fished off the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edwards Island.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod, Mackerel Herring and Halibut. Principally Cod and Mackerel.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. I cannot answer this definitely.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? But very little if any.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do, at the ports of Charlottetown, Halifax, the straits of Canso. The trade is quite extensive, but I cannot state its extent.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I cannot tell.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles

of the coast ; whence is such profit derived ; and in what does it consist ? It is impossible for me to tell. Sometimes the advantage might be considerable : in other cases it would be nothing.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before ; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate ? I do not know how valuable the privileges granted by the Treaty of Washington may prove.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States ? I think it is more beneficial to the people of the Provinces.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States ? I do not know.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market ? I think it is the principal market.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive ? I do not know.

FREEMAN HODGDON.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this tenth day of June, 1873.

ORRIN MCFADDEN, *Collector of Customs.*

No. 2.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside ? Thomas Berry, age sixty-three, I live at Boothbay Me.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish ? I have been a fishing on the Banks and on the coasts of the British Provinces for fifty-one years.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information ? If so, please give some such name. Charles Reed.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so ? I have examined the treaty.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington ? Principally Porgies and Mackerel, would be sought for by the fishermen of the Provinces. We have also cod haddock hake, Halibut, and many other kinds.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclu-

sive? If you can do this, please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. I cannot tell. The amount is very great. The quantity taken on our coast by American Fishermen greatly exceeds the quantity taken on the coasts of the Provinces.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. I am not able.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? The people of the Provinces take as many codfish I think as the people of the States. Of Mackerel we take far the larger quantity, probably three times as many. They take the greater part of the Herring.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and, if so, to what extent and value? They get a great part of their bait from this State. They catch some and buy some.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? It is a great privilege. The Porgie bait which they procure from this State is far better than any other for taking Mackerel.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? I think it would injure our fishermen very little. Neither would our fishing on Canadian coasts injure theirs.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? I cannot tell. It is not large.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Certainly three-fourths are deep sea fisheries.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel and Herring.

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? The off-shore fishery has been the most valuable for the last thirty years.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Much the larger quantity is taken outside the in-shore limits. Mackerel are generally found on the banks. When we can catch Mackerel off shore they are of superior quality to those caught in-shore.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in shore waters? No, sir, they are not: it is an advantage to them, by tolling the fish in.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American Fishing-vessels, from which large

quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? They are. The small fishermen of the Provinces are in the habit of following the American fleet.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Porgie Bait. Taken on the coasts of this State. The greater part is taken within three miles of shore. The United States fishermen take none on the coasts of the Province. The fishermen of the Provinces will derive great benefit from the privilege of taking Bait on our coasts, as they have none on their own.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. It will cost to fit a vessel of one hundred tons from \$2,000 to \$3,000 for a codfishing cruise. For a mackerel cruise from \$1,200 to \$1,500.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. It would cost less. Salt, cordage, lines, and nearly all their fishing tackle costs less. And they can build vessels for much less than we can.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I am acquainted with the cod and Mackerel fishery. I have been skipper of a fisherman for the last thirty years.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel chiefly.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872, inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. I do not know.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? They do not.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do in the ports of Canso, Charlottetown, Port Hood and Halifax. They do this to a large extent; and will do it much more under the Treaty of Washington than ever before. Vessels will now refit there. The advantage of this trade to the people of the Provinces will be very great.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I cannot tell how many: it is a very large fleet. The proportion which would fish within the three-mile limit is very small.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? It is not worth over five per cent. We used to buy a license to fish inshore when we could buy them for fifty cents per ton. After the price was raised we could not make it pay to buy license.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate, them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? I do not think they do.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? It is more beneficial to the people of the Provinces.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? I do not know. They ship all their fat mackerel to the United States.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market? Yes.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. I do not know. The amount must be large.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. There has been very little exportation of these articles to the Provinces during the last ten years.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. I believe that the privileges of bringing their fish to our markets free of duty considering that they can catch them cheaper than we can will stimulate their fishing industries much more than the privilege of fishing inland will stimulate ours. I also think that the increased trade which will accrue to the Provincial towns on the coast will of itself compensate

for all the detriment that can result to their fishermen from our inshore fishing.

THOMAS BERRY.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this tenth day of June 1873.

ORRIN McFADDEN,
Collector of Customs.

No. 3.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PROPOUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? (William Eaton) (58) Castine, Maine

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been employed in the American and Canadian, Cod and Mackerel fisheries, sixteen years

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Capt. Joseph Stearns, Castine Maine, also Capt James Torrey Deer Isle Maine.

4. A copy of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined the above-named articles

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod, Halibut, Hake, Haddock, Menhaden Pollock and Herring

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington?

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? They procure clam-bait and Menhaden, mostly by purchase.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington?

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually?

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the

fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them?

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? The in-shore and deep-sea fisheries, in my opinion are of about equal value

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mostly Mackerel & Herring, but considerable quantities of Cod Halibut Flake & Haddock are caught in shore

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? One third in, and two thirds off shore.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and not within shore? By far the larger quantities are taken outside the inshore limits

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial inshore waters? They are benefitted by the inshore fishing by reason of the fish being "tolled" inshore by the large quantity of bait thrown by the fishermen

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? There is certainly more fish caught

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Clam bait and Menhaden is the principal bait, taken mostly on the coast of Maine and Massachusetts

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. It will cost for a vessel of 100 tons for a 4 months cruise \$5,000, in the cod fisheries. A vessel of the same size could be fitted and manned for a mackerel cruise for about \$3,000 for the same period.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is, and the reason for it. The cost of vessels fittings and maning &c would not be so much because the custom house fees on salt are not so much, the pay of crews is less, also the cost of bbls, cables, anchors, and some kinds of provisions are less. Their vessels cost about one third less than ours.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long; and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these

fisheries? I am, or have been for a period of 15 years in capacity of Master of vessels engaged in the cod and mackerel fisheries

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? principally cod, and mackerel.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Not to a great extent. Some capelin, herring and alewives are taken.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do obtain the articles mentioned above, in Port Hood Cape Canso, Charlotte Town, Port Mulgrave Molpeak, &c.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit?

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? In my experience the advantage has been very little.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? Drying and curing don't amount to much. The privilege of transshipping cargoes is of some advantage.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? In my opinion the advantage is in their favor.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are, or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

WILLIAM EATON.

CASTINE, July 5th, 1873

Personally appeared the above named William Eaton, and on oath says that the foregoing statement by him signed is true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Before me

WM. H. SARGENT, *Jus. Pca.*

No. 4.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? L. G. Crane; Gouldsborough Maine.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have owned fishermen, and have been fishing.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Hadlock & Stanley.

4. A copy of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22, inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined them closely.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Codfish, Mackerel, Herring Porgies, Halibut

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1851 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so: and, if not, please state where that information can be procured? Could not answer correctly.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. I cannot answer this correctly.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters

off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? I think that both nations are on equal footings.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? They do procure their mackerel bait. Bait for a vessel of 12 hands will cost three hundred dollars.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington?

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? I think they would.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? There never has been any, but probably will be equal to our own.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Seven-eighths of our fishermen use the offshore fisheries.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the inshore fisheries? Mackerel altogether.

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? One-eighth inshore.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Much the largest quantity taken outside the three mile limit.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? Not any.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? If it was not for the American fishermen the Canadian fishermen would be unable to get any fish in their small boats.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Porgies & Clams procured on the Coast of Maine—seven eighths within three miles of the shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail, the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port? A vessel of one hundred tons manned by fifteen men for three months voyage. Barrels \$5.00. Salt five hundred bushels at \$2.20 per Hhd. Bait \$500. Victualling the vessel \$300.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned

from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American Vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is, and the reason for it. The cost of the Vessel is not more than one half as much, and the outfits are not much more than half as much as our Vessels.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I own fishermen and fitted out fishermen, and have been fishing myself for 20 years more or less. The principal fishing in the provinces is Cod fish & Mackerel, and the greatest portion taken on the Banks.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod & Mackerel.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? They do not.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. We sometimes procure barrels and bait and fresh provisions in Canso and many ports on Prince Edwards Island and at the Chaleurs.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? Five hundred Vessels, average Value \$7,000 each; seven eighths without the three mile limit.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? None

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? None at all

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British

North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I think it is more

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. Yes

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. I think it is of a great deal more value to the Province than it is to the American fishermen, and eventually will be a great injury to the interest of the American fishermen.

L. G. CRANE,

Keeper Seguin Light Maine

Sworn to before me this 2d day of July, 1873

E. S. J. NEALLEY,

Collector.

No. 5.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Henry E. Willard—35 years old—Reside in Cape Elizabeth.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been a fisherman for twenty-four years—master of a fishing vessel 9 years.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Geo W. Willard, Caleb Willard, John F. Lovitt Morris Cobb, Isaac Cobb, & others

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined articles 18 & 22 of the "treaty of Washington"

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod & Haddock, Mackrel, Pollock Herring, Pohagen, Halibut &c.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872 inclusive? If you can do this, please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. Cannot state.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. All the kinds named in answer to question 5, which may be made of great value to the Canadian fishermen, as they are now to American fishermen.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? I cannot say.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and, if so, to what extent and value? They do obtain considerable bait in the waters of this State.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? Will depend on what extent the Canadian fishermen may pursue the fishing business in our waters.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our inshore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and, if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? Will open a competition for winter and early fishing for supplying American markets.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Cannot tell.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Not one-fourth are caught in-shore. Chiefly caught out-side.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel—sometimes Herrings.

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Not one-fourth of the mackerel caught are taken in-shore. Chiefly taken out side.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? They are taken chiefly out side the in-shore limits—on the banks and in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in colonial in-shore waters? I should think no material injury.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Yes for they rely chiefly on the bait thrown over by American fishermen.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally

taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Porgies are used chiefly for Mackrel Bait & Porgies are taken on the Coast of Maine almost exclusively within three miles of the Shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. For a season—of say three trips—Mackrel Fishing—(two months to a trip.) Will cost \$2,500, for Bait, Salt & Provisions: & Eleven men at \$40 per month—6 mos—\$2,640 in addition—Seins, lines, Hooks &c., \$1,500.—Making \$6,640 for 45 ton vessel costing \$9,000—or \$2,210 per trip, *without* reconing cost of Vessel.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Canadian Vessels are built of Soft woods & cheaply fitted & cannot cost I think, much more than half as much as American fishermen—do not provision as expensively as American fishing Vessels.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? Am acquainted with Nova Scotia & Prince Edwards Island fisheries—have fished there for four seasons.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackrel Herring, Pollock, Cod & Hake.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. Cannot say.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Occasionally Herring for Codfishing—perhaps valued at 10¢ a season for each vessel.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. American fishermen do procure the above supplies, at Gut Canso, Charlottetown P. E. I. Pictou N. S. Port-Hood—& some other ports, & this trade must be of considerable value to those Dominion ports.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engaged in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without

and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? Should think that 175 to 200 Vessels ranging at 45 to 50 tons, averaging eleven men each, go annually to the British Provinces for Mackrel & will average, I should think, 180 Bbls Mackrel each for the seasons catch—of which, more than $\frac{1}{2}$ are taken *out side* of the “three-mile-limit.”

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? I should think it more profitable for a vessel *not* to go within three miles of the shore—more fish would be taken, but the restriction is an annoyance.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? I do not think the gain of any great advantage to American Fishermen.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I know that during the Reciprocity treaty, that several persons—citizens in the Gut o Canso (Charlottetown Port Hood) & other places got wealthy out of American fishing trade. & since its repeal those persons have lost all that trade—which I have no doubt this treaty will restore in a measure.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Cannot

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. the only foreign market for Canadians

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

H E WILLARD

I solemnly and truly swear that the foregoing statements by me subscribed are true according to my best knowledge and belief. So help me God.

H E WILLARD

Sworn before me this sixteenth day of June A. D. 1873.

M. N. RICH (SEAL)
Dep. Collector of Customs.

No. 6.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PROPOUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Name Albert T Trufant Age, 39 years State of Maine Town of Harpswell

Q. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been in the Business of Bying & Cureing Fish for the last 13 years and have been in Gulf of St Lawrence a Fishing

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so?

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington?

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872 inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington?

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? And if so, to what extent and value? they do but I cannot state to What extent

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington?

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? I think it will as they can Bring their Fish in Free of Duty and they can Fit & have their Vessels at Less Cost than we can

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them?

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries?

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? for mackerel

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? in My Opinion there is not one Eight taken within the Shore Limits of Three Miles.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? they are

17. Are colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in colonial in-shore waters? they are not

18. Are not more fish caught by colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? they are

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Manhaden and I should say that Seven Eights are taken within three Miles of the Shore as to the Value I cannot State but it is of considerable value as it is the Prinsable Bait used for Mackerel

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. the Prinsable Class of Fishing presude from Maine is the Cod Mackerel Fishery the relative cost of Fitting for Cod Fishing is from 1 to 3,000 as to sise of Vessel and the length of the time occupide is from 4 to 12 Weeks and the Principle Cost is Provisions Salt & Bait As for Mackerel Fishing it Cost less than for Cod Fishing to Fit the Vessells and their everage length of time to complete a voyge is from 8 to 12 Weeks the Cost for Fitting for a Mackerel voyge is from 800 to 2000 as to beam & sise of Vessel.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. As for Fitting and Manning Vessells from the Provinces they can be Fitted & run with a less cost than from the States in the first place there is no los of time as it takes from 1 to 2 Weeks each way to get to the Fishing Grounds and they can build their Vessells at a less cost than from the States as timber and all Material is Cheaper and also labor and they can presue the Fishing Business at a less cost than the Vessells from the States in every respect.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries?

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are

to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod & Mackerel

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? They do Procure Bait sometimes within 3 Miles of the Shore but the Value is but of little importance as it is Mostly Herring Fish and of but little Value except for Bait

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do Procure suplies and also Ice, Salt Barrells &c and it is of great advantage to the Provinces to Sell to the American Fishing Vessels they Buy in evry Harbor of any note in the Dominion of Novascotia Prince Edwards Island Cape Briton & the North Shore of the Gulf of Lower Canada I canot State the Vallue but it must be a Large Amount

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I cannot State What Number of Vessels ar yearley engaged in the Fisherey of the British Provinces but should from 2 to 300 and they are Mostly Fishing for Cod & Mackerel the everage Crews Consist from 7 to 12 or 15 Men as to sise of Vessels and I should say that but one eight of the Fish are caught within the 3 Miles limets of the Shore

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? I should say that I do not consider 10 per cent is added to the privalige of Fishing within the 3 Miles limets and that consist of Mackerel & Bait taken within the limets

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to re-pack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate?

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I should consider it of More advantage to the Provinces as regards the Fishing interest than to the United States

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. it does

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

ALBERT T. TRUFANT.

Attest: STEPHEN PURINTON.

Personally appeared the within named Albert T. Trufant & made oath that the within instrument by him signed is true. Before me,

STEPHEN PURINTON,

Justice of the Peace.

No. 7.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PROPOUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

I, Enoch G. Willard make answer to the several questions propounded to me on behalf of the United States, as follows.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Enoch G. Willard,—reside in Portland, Maine—am 50 years old.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been in the business of buying and selling fish for over 20 years, and furnishing supplies and outfits for fishermen, and have been an importer and dealer in Salt. Purchased over \$400,000 worth of fish last year.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. S. B. Chase of the house of Dana, & Co. George Trefetheren, Henry Trefetheren, John Conley, Emery Cushing, A. G. Sterling, Geo. F. Lovett and others.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so. I have examined articles 18 to 22 inclusive of the Treaty.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington. Cod, hake, haddock, mackerel herring, porgies, are the principal.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this, please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. The kinds are stated in my last answer. The value of the fish purchased at this port, including cod-liver oil is about \$2,200,000. Of the fish purchased here probably not one twentieth part are caught on that part of the Canadian coast thrown open by the treaty,—but what portion of the nineteenth-twentieths not so caught are taken upon the coast of this State, I am not able to state with anything like accuracy, nor do I know who can—probably one-half.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. It is not within my power to give any definite answer or answers that I should feel certain about; to the first question I will state the kinds of fish caught on the coast of Maine which by the treaty will be open to the Canadian fishermen. 1. Mackerel—this fishery is large and valuable, and may be made so to the Dominion fishermen if they choose to avail themselves of the opportunities offered. These fish are taken on the coast of Maine before they reach the coast to the eastward and are sent to the Southern markets. It is now a valuable fishery to the Maine fishermen, and will be opened to Dominion use. 2. The herring fishery is large and important—especially on the Eastern coast. 3. The pogie fishery is very large. The most important district on the entire coast is Maine. The pogie taken here is fatter than any other and afford more oil. When the fishery is thrown open under the Treaty the Dominion fishermen will be at liberty to take pogies upon the coast of this State and enter into a large and profitable trade. Also to catch (especially in the winter) cod and other fish for sale fresh in the American markets in competition with American fishermen, and to catch mackerel early before they reach the Dominion waters, thus affording employment to the vessels and fishermen of the Provinces at times when there is none upon their own coast.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? Cannot say.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State; and, if so, to what extent and value? A considerable amount of bait is supplied from this State to Canadian fishermen; can't say how much.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? Cannot say. It will depend upon the enterprise of the fishermen.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? Undoubtedly to some extent. There will be sharp competition in winter for our markets for fresh fish, and for mackerel early in the season.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the

fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Don't know.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? More than nine-tenths—perhaps nineteen-twentieths are outside.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel chiefly—Some herring.

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Not over one fourth are taken within the inshore limits—three fourths or more outside.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes. More than three-fourths. Mackerel in the Gulph of St. Lawrence are usually found on the Banks.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? I think not.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Practical fishermen can answer better than I.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Pogie. Nearly all the mackerel bait is taken on the coast of Maine within three miles of the shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. A vessel of 60 tons costs \$2,500 to 3,000\$ per annum, for fitting, furnishing &c., and makes usually three cruises a year.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. The cost of fitting out, &c., in the Dominion is not so large as in the United States. Cannot state the precise difference. Our fishermen generally consider the difference I think to be not less than 25 per cent. in favor of the Dominion. Reasons our vessels cost more—cost more to supply and wages are less.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I am as a fish dealer as before stated with most or all of those fisheries.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel, herring and pollock.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. I have not the information at hand that would enable me to state with accuracy. The catch in outside waters is of many times the value of the catch inside as before stated.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? They do sometimes, but not to a large extent.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do, and will more largely when the Treaty takes effect. Will also buy fish by the cargo and in smaller quantity. It is a valuable trade to the Provinces.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessel yearly engaged in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I have already stated the sorts of fish taken, those taken within the three mile limit would not be one tenth of all taken in those waters.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? Only for two months in a year is there any advantage, and this is mainly confined to catching the per cent of Mackerel before stated.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? American fishermen do not repack fish until they arrive home—the other rights except transshipping cargoes are of no value.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more or quite as beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? Yes. I have no doubt of it a large portion of fishermen and fish dealers believe that without the repeal of the duty the former would gain as much as the latter, but with the repeal, the opinion is nearly if not quite universal among intelligent and practical men that the balance of gain, if any, is with the people of the Provinces.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Cannot say.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. Yes, the only market foreign to the Provinces.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Dont know.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

I do solemnly, sincerely & truly swear that the foregoing Statements are true & correct to the best of my knowledge & belief. So help me God.

E G. WILLARD

Sworn to before me

M N RICH *Dep. Collector of Customs* (SEAL.)

June 2, 72

No. 8.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Geo Trefethen, age forty-three. Portland Maine

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I am a wholesale dealer in Dry & Pickled have been in the business twentyone years in Portland previous to which worked at curing fish from my youth up. Am an owner in Six fishing Schoones and have owned more or less for twenty years, my father has been in the business sixty years

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. W. S. Dana, A. G. Sterhag, C & H Trefethen E. G. Willard and many others

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I, have

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel Codfish Pollock Hake Haddock & Porgies

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and, if not, please state where that information can be procured. I cannot state definitely, and do not know where the information can be obtained

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. I think the most valuable fisheries to be thrown open by the Treaty is the Porgie, which I should estimate to be worth a Million Dollars to the State of Maine And which we have now entirely as the fish follow the coast and are taken almost wholly within the three mile limit the next in importance is the Mackerel, which perhaps is really of more value but is not confined to the shore so closely, a large portion being taken outside the limit Codfish are mostly taken outside the three miles on our coast.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? I cannot State

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State; and if so, to what extent and value? They do, but cannot state to what amount. Porgies for Mackerel Bait has been quite largely shipped to N. S. from this State

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? I cannot tell. It will be owing entirely to how far they avail themselves of the privileges opened to them

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? If they should take advantage of our winter fishing, I think that they injure our fishermen by over stocking our markets with fresh fish, and thus reduce the price

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? I do not know, but think it is very limited at present, confined to a few Mackerel fishermen in fall of the year

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? All of the Cod are taken off shore and a large proportion of the Mackerel, say three quarters to seven eights. Herring are mostly taken in shore, also Pollock

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel principally, and will for Herring after the treaty takes effect

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or

chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? I should say three quarters to Seven eights outside and one eights to a qarter in shore

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes in the summer, say from June 1st to Sept 1st our fishermen usually do better off shore, but in the fall after the 1st of Sept the Mackerel usually play in shore, and the weather being rough it is safer to be near a harbor

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? I should say not, except in rare instances

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? I do not know.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Porgies is the best bait for Mackerel, and is taken only on the coast of Maine and Massachusetts, and is all taken within three miles of the shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail, the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. For Bank cod fisheries we use vessels of about 60 tons costing from seven to ten thousand dollars, we usually fit and provision them for a voyage of two to four months with a crew of ten men. 1st we take 120 to 140 hhds Salt cost 300\$ Bait 40 Brls. Clams, 320\$ Nets lines & Hooks 180\$ Provisions 500\$ total \$1300,—to which we add if they fish in dories which the most of the fishermen do late years 300\$ for dories total 1600\$. this for the first or spring cruise, if \$1600 successfull usually last two months the second cruise will cost less, say about 1000\$ for two months if codfishing. if for mackerel in \$1000 Bay St. Lawrence 800\$. third cruise for Mackerel usually cost \$600 600\$. Therefore if the vessel makes two Cod fish cruises and one— Mackerel it will cost about 3200\$ if One Codfish and two Mack. \$3200 erel 3000\$ in rare instances we get a fourth trip, but as often only two.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is, and the reason for it. I cannot State what it costs to fit out a vessel from the Provinces, but have always understood that it cost them much less. in the first place they have cheeper vessels. And not so well provided and Provisioned. they are nearer home, and do not require so extensive an outfit. and the men own and run their vessels, and are satisfied with poorer provisions than our people are, and many articles cost less in Nova Scotia

than in the States, vessels can be built for less, because wood and iron is cheaper. Salt is cheaper than any other articles

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? only as a dealer and buyer of their fish

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Herring, Mackerel, Cod, &c.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also, the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are no more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. I do not know.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? they do. Herring principally for winter fishing which they purchase of the inhabitants and will continue to purchase, as the inhabitants can sell for less than our fishermen can catch them I do not know the amount, but should estimate it at ten thousand dollars or more

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. they do to some extent in Halifax, N. S., Port Mulgrave & Port Hood, C. B., Charlotte town & Georgetown, P. E. I., and other Ports of less note, and will after the Treaty takes effect to a *large extent*. It must be a decided advantage to people of those Ports to be able to supply our vessels with Fresh Provisions Potatoes &c and I know that they felt it to be a sad blow to them when the former Treaty was abrogated, and I have been solicited by parties in trade at Halifax, Port Mulgrave and Charlotte Town to send my vessels to them for supplies, and have done So

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I have no statistics, of the above, but should estimate the number to be Five or Six hundred Valued at some Two hundred and fifty Thousand dollars, manned by some five or Six thousand men, Cod and Mackerel, should estimate the value at three Million Dollars in round numbers, and should estimate the amount taken inshore or within three miles at not more than ten per cent. or three hundred thousand, and I do not believe that it will exceed that amount after the Treaty takes effect.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine

miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? I do not think that I would pay one-tenth of One per cent for the privilege, in fact all the benefit that any vessel that I own in would derive, would be in being allowed to fish for about a month inside the limit for Mackerel. When the Dominion Govt granted permits to fish inside the three mile limit to our fishermen, by the payment of fifty dollars for a vessel, some of our fishermen, paid that amount for the privilege, but when the next year the Dominion Govt raised the amount to One hundred Dollars, very few if any, would pay it, none that I was interested did.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? None for the right to land and dry their nets and cure fish; they may gain something in rights to land and transship Cargoes but I think the benefits to the people, where they are landed or transshipped would be fully equal to the benefit we derive.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more or quite as beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I, think it is decidedly in favor of of the People of Provinces, the right to bring their fish to our market free of Duty is worth more to them than all they give is worth to us.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? I do not know.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market? It does, and also a large part of the Large Codfish.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive I do not know.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. I do not know.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. I will state in this connection that I have in my employ a number of natives of Nova Scotia, who now say they shall return to N. S. as by the treaty, and with the privilege of sending their fish to our market free, they can prosecute the business more profitably there than here.

I solemnly, sincerely & truly swear that the foregoing statements are true & correct to the best of my knowledge & belief. So help me God.

GEORGE TREFETHEN.

Sworn before me this 12th day June 1873

(Seal.)

M N RICH *Dep. Collector.*

No. 9.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? John Conley. Portland, Me. age, 69 years.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been in the Fish and Oil business for the last thirty years.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. E. G. Willard; Geo. Trefethen & Co.; Henry Trefethen & Sons; Emery Cushing; A. G. Sterling & Co.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provision of the Treaty of Washington? Cod; Hake; Cusk; Haddock; Mackerel; Pollock; Herring; Menhaden, or porgies are the principal kinds.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. The kinds of Fish are as above stated. The value of fish and fish-oil is about two million dollars (\$2000,000.) for Portland sales.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. I cannot state the amount Mackerel in large quantities and value. also Codfish; Hake, Haddock, Pollock, Herring & Pogies will be of great importance and profit to the Canadian fishermen.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? I cannot say.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? They procure large quantities of bait and supplies; value not known.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? I cannot say, but think it very valuable.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? I do not think it will, to any great extent but they

will have a chance to compete with our winter fishing, which is very valuable.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? I do not know.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? About three quarters of the fishing is deep-sea fishing.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel and herring, principally.

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Should think that less than one fourth part are taken within the in-shore limits.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Cannot say.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? Do not think they are.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Cannot say, but should think there would be.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? The best bait is pogies; nearly all the mackerel bait is taken on the coast of Maine and within three miles of the shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Salt, Lines, Provisions, etc. varying from One thousand (1000) dollars to three thousand (3000) dollars. They usually make from two to three trips per year.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Should think the cost of the Canadian would be much less than the American.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I have been acquainted with the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick fisheries for about twenty years.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are

to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod and Pollock principally.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. Do not know.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Should think not to any great extent or value.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do purchase supplies in most all the ports on the fishing coast, and is consequently of advantage to the inhabitants of the different ports.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? Cannot state how many vessels are employed or the amount of fish taken.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived, and in what does it consist? Only a small part of the fish are taken within three miles of the coast, and the profit not large compared with the outside fishery.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to re-pack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? Do not think they do, to any great extent.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I consider the advantage fully equal and beneficial.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Cannot say.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. I think it does to a large extent.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Cannot state.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it?

I solemnly sincerely & truly swear that the foregoing Statements are true & correct to the best of my knowledge & belief—so help me God.

JOHN CONLEY

Sworn to before me this 14th day June 1873

M N RICH

Dep Collector. (SEAL.)

No. 10.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? O. B. Whitten; 34 Portland Maine

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been in the fish business ten years

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. T. O. Lewis Abel Chase C. M. Trefethan R. T. Sterling

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22, inclusive, and state that you have done so? Have examined the articles referred to above

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod—Haddock Pollock Hake Mackerel Herring and Pohagen

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. Unable to state

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. Cannot say

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? Do not know

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? A very large proportion of the bait used by the Canadian mackerel fishermen is taken from the waters of this State

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? Cannot say

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? As the Canadian fishermen can build fitt and man their vessels at an exceedingly less cost than American it would be a detriment to American fisheries because they could not compete with them

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Do not know

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Most of the large fishing vessels of this State pursue the deep sea fishing off the Coast of British North American Provinces for nearly five months and then a large proportion of the same vessels pursue the mackerel fishing

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Should judge that seven eighths of all the mackerel caught are taken out side of the in-shore limits

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? No

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? It requires a continual throwing of bait to catch mackerel with a hook consequently vessels in the fleet do better than they would by fishing alone

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Pohagen—and all taken in American waters and most of it within three miles of the shore

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and man-

ning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. It will cost to build and fit out a vessel of 100 tons for cod-fishing to be absent the average time—say three months \$12000—For mackerel fishing \$11550

Cod fishing	Cost of Vessel	9500	Mackerel fishing, cost of Vessel	9500	
" "	" " Provisions	1200	" " " " Provisions	1000	
" "	" " Salt	450	" " " " Salt	150	
" "	" " Dorries	350	" " " " Bait	300	
" "	" " Bait	500	" " " " Barrels	600	
		<u>\$12000</u>			<u>\$11550</u>

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is, and the reason for it. Should say that Canadian vessels can be built and fitted for nearly one half less than American—material for building is less—They use a poorer class of vessels and provision them at a very small expense

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? Acquainted with the cod and mackerel fisheries—nearly ten years both curing cod-fish and inspecting mackerel

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel mostly

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters, which are more than three miles distant from the shore. Please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Sometimes the American fishermen take bait within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada but to a very small extent

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada—American fishermen frequently land their cargo of mackerel and ship them to American ports—then they are obliged to get an entire outfit, and it is a great advantage to have the trade of the fishing-vessels

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men

employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit?

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist?

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? They do not

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? A *far greater* benefit to the people of British North American Provinces than to the people of the United States

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. Yes

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

I solemnly sincerely & truly swear that the foregoing statements are true & correct to the best of my knowledge & belief. So help me God.

O. B. WHITEN

Sworn to before

M N RICH

Dep Collector

No. 11.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO S B CHASE ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Stephen B Chase reside in Portland Main am 67 years old

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been in the business of receiving and delivering fish for the last twenty-five years.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. E G Willard George Trefetherin Henry Trefetherin John Conley Emery Cushing A G Sterling George F Lovett.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod Hake, Cusk Haddock Mackerel Herring Pogies are the principle.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. The kinds are stated in my last answer. The value of Fish purchase including Cod Liver Oil and the Oil manufactured from Porgies is from \$1800,000 to \$2,000,000.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. Cannot give any answer to the first part of questions, the kinds of Fish caught on the coast of Maine which by the Treaty will be opened to the Canadian Fisherman, 1st, Mackerell, which is large & valuable and may be maid so to the fishermen of the Provinces if they choose to make them so, as they are taken earley in the season on our southern Coast and then work east until Fall when they reach the English waters, this branch of the fishing interest is large and valuable to Maine Fisherman, and will be open to Dominion fishermen 2d The Herring fishery is large and important especially on the Eastern Coast 3d the pogie fishery is large and important, especcealy to Maine, and by the treaty this branch is trown open to the Dominion Fishermen and will open to them a large and profitable buisness to them if they choose to themselves of it also the Fresh Fish buisness will be thrown open to them in the Winter season affording emploument to men & vessels during the time they cannot be so employe on their coast

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? Cannot say

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? A large amount of Baits is supplied to Canadien Fisherman cant say how much

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and care their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? Cannot say

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? This will depend very much on the enterpris of the

Canadian Fisherman, as they will have a chance to compete for the winter fishing & early mackerel fishing

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Do not know

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? More than three quarters perhaps Nine tenths are out side

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in shore fisheries? Mackerel & Herring

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Should think one fourth part are taken within in shore limits

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Cannot say

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? I think not

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Cannot say

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Pogies, nearly all the Mackerel Bait is taken on the coast of Maine and within three miles of shore

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. As near as I can ascertain from enquirey think the expence will be from \$2000 to \$3000, and usually make three cruises a year

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Cannot tell

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coast of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I am with the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick

23. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod and Pollock and salmon.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value

of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. do not know

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada; if so, to what extent, and what is the value? they do sometimes but to small extent.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries; if so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage.—They do and will more largely when the treaty takes effect, and will prove a valuable trade to the Province

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces (excluding Newfoundland) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I have no knowledge of the Number of Vessels employed or how many fish taken

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? only for a short time in the fall, and is mainly confined the per cent. of mackerel before stated

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? Americans do not repack fish until they arrive home the other rights excepting transshipping cargo is of no value

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I have no doubt of it and in conversation with both class of Fisherman the Dominion Fishermen are better satisfied than our own with the Treaty according to there own statements

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Cannot say.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. Yes.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Do not know

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

I solemnly sincerely and truly swear that the foregoing statements are true & correct to the best of my knowledge & belief. So help me God.

STEPHEN B CHASE

Sworn before me this 13th day of June 1873

M N RICH,
Dep. Collector.

No. 12.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ——— ———, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

I, Marshall N. Rich, make the following answers to the several questions propounded to me, respecting the fisheries on behalf of the U. S.:

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Marshall N Rich—reside in Portland Maine—am 42 years of age.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been Secretary of the Board of Trade of this city for the past *ten* years—published a commercial paper for seven years—in which capacities it has engaged much of my time in preparing & collating statistics and trade reports. I have also been Deputy Collector of Customs for this port for nearly five years, and am at this time,

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. W. S. Dana, E. G. Willard, George Trefethen, Emery Cushing, Geo. F. Lovett, John Conley & others.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined Articles 18 and 22 inclusive of the "Treaty of Washington."

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod, Pollock, Hake, Haddock, Mackerel, Herring, & "Porgies" (chiefly.)

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this, please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. Of the kinds of fish previously enumerated, including Cod-liver Oil. The value of that purchased in this market, is not much short of two and a half million dollars annually, of which, probably not one twentieth part are caught on that part of the Coast to be thrown open by the "Treaty." I cannot state where the information asked can be procured.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. I cannot state with any practical degree of accuracy the amount and value of the American fisheries to be open to the Canadian fishermen through the provisions of the treaty. The kinds of fish that are caught on the Coast of Maine are Mackerel—which is one of the most valuable & successful, especially early in the season before these fish frequent the Coast so far Eastward as the Canadian shores, and would afford a remunerative business for the Canadian fishermen in supplying Southern markets early in the season, before these fish reach the more Eastern shores of the British Provinces. The “Porgie” fishery of Maine is probably the next in importance to that of Mackerel—and the most valuable of this class, of the whole Atlantic coast, as the yield of oil is much more abundant & better—than from any other source, this would open to the Canadian fisherman opportunities for an entirely new & remunerative business. The Herring fishery is also of considerable importance on the eastern shores of Maine. “Winter Cod fishing,” for supplying the markets with *fresh* fish affords a large business to American fishermen, for which Canadian fishermen could compete under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? I cannot answer.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State, and if so, to what extent and value? Canadian fishermen obtain large supplies of bait in the markets of this State.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? This will depend largely to what extent the Canadian fishermen may avail themselves of the opportunities thus offered.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in shore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? The competition of Canadian fishermen will be likely to considerably reduce the profits of our own fishermen, especially in the winter fishing.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Can give no reliable information,

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in shore fisheries? Chiefly deep-sea fishing, but a small proportion are in shore fisheries.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? For mackerel chiefly.

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in shore limits? I learn that probably not one quarter of the mackiel taken by

American fishermen are caught within the in-shore limits, that more than three quarters are taken outside.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits: and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes—from the best information I have.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? I have heard Canadian fishermen—or coasters say, that it was rather an advantage in the way of *trade*—to have American fishermen in their waters—than otherwise—farther I cannot say.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? I cannot say—from personal knowledge,

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Porgies—principally taken within three miles of the shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail, the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Vessels of 60 to 70 tons costing 8 to 9 thousand dollars are the prevailing class of craft employed by the Maine fishermen and to “fit out” for a mackerel cruise—complete; costs from \$2,500 to \$3,000 per annum and they make three—sometimes four cruises a year.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. I cannot state the cost of fitting & manning Canadian fishermen—but think they must be very much less, as they are not so large & costly vessels as those employed by American fishermen,

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? Only from such information as I have acquired in my business relations with the American fishermen & dealers and casual conversation with Canadian Coasters,

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel—Pollock, & Herring.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. I am not able to answer intelligibly,

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three

miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Have heard that they do occasionally.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. Yes to some extent at Halifax Yarmouth—Cape Breton & other places, and is an advantage to the ports of the Dominion, in furnishing supplies, &c,

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I cannot say how many U. S. vessels are yearly engaged or how many men employed—The kinds of fish caught is previously stated—the portion caught within 3 miles of the British coast is not over 10 per cent I think

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived, and in what does it consist? Perhaps ten per cent, as by such privileges, they can fish to better advantage near the shore for two months in the year.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? The fish caught by our fishermen are not repacked till they arrive home. Transshipping cargoes will be of some value. There will be no other rights acquired by the treaty that I can now see.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I should judge the "Treaty" to be as beneficial to the British North American Provinces, in every respect as to the people of the United States—Smoke-Houses will be established by American dealers at favorable ports of shipment in the British Provinces to secure the advantages of cheaper labour.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Cannot answer,

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market? Yes—so far as my knowledge goes.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. I cannot tell,

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872 inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

I Marshall N. Rich do solemnly—sincerely & truly swear that the foregoing statements are true & correct to the best of my knowledge & belief—So help me God

MARSHALL N. RICH.

Sworn before me this 12th day of June 1873

(Seal.)

D MORTLOR

Dety Collr, Justice of the Peace

No. 13.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ———— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Noah Swett—47—Wellfleet Massachusetts.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been engaged in the mackerel fishery 35 years. 15 years as catcher, 20 years as Inspector. Never have visited the Canadian waters.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? Have examined the articles mentioned

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod, Mackerel, & Menhaden or Pogies are the Principal varieties of great value—

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coasts of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. The Reports of the Inspector General will give the total catch of Mackerel for those years but will include the foreign with the home catch, and it will be difficult I think to find a separate statement of each. Am not aware that any public record of the catch of Cod on our shores has been kept.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen,

under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. Supposing that an annual average catch of Mackerel—to be 250,000 barrels in all the New England States at \$10 per barrel—the value would be—\$2,500,000 for such fish alone, the value of the Cod & Porgy catch. I am not well acquainted with

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington?

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? I think the Canadian fishermen have not only in exceptional cases procured Bait on our coast, but have procured it from second hands.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? The privilege to procure bait is valuable, so is the liberty to repack and inspect their mackerel. The privilege relating to nets is not worth much to either side, they salt their nets and do not dry

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and, if so, in what manner and to what extent annually? Our home fleet is already too numerous for the prosperity of the business. If this Treaty causes the Canadian fishery largely to increase, the detriment to the Home vessel will be serious on acct of the difference in fitting, cost of vessel, &c enabling them to sell under

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Am not aware that at present there are any to make acct of

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Very Largely deep sea fishery

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mostly mackerel—

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? My opinion is from what I can learn from what experienced persons say that more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the catch has been outside the 3 mile limit in the Bay of St Lawrence. The American in-shore fishery is very valuable, especially early & late, for mackerel and fresh fishing fall. Winter & spring

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Such are undoubtedly the facts

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? I look upon it as a very great advantage to the Colonist

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-

shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone; It is often the case that while fishing in shore the Colonial fishermen ties on to the American, so as to take advantage of her bait. to toll mackerel alongside

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case, may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? The Porgy is the almost universal bait used, and is found from Long Island to the Penobscot River, and is all taken within the limits the annual value to one of our fishermen, is from \$300 to \$500 dollars

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home ports For the mackerel Fishery—an average vessel would cost,..... \$8000.00

Fitted with Barrels—.....	450.00
“ “ Salt.....	150.00
“ “ Provisions.....	400.00
“ “ Bait.....	300.00
“ “ 16 men—.....	3200.00

12,400.00

if she carries seine..... 1200.00

13,600.00

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. The American mackerel fleet is a fleet of Yachts calculated for fleetness and composed and constructed of the best materials, The Canadian fleet is far below the other in material and construction, Many of the duties that the American pays are unknown to the Colonist Barrels, salt and Provisions are likewise lower and of an inferior quality and the habits of living on board are very much in favor of the Colonist. I judge that the inhabitant of the Dominion can furnish and sail his Schooner at, $\frac{1}{3}$ at least less cost than the American

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, which of these fisheries? Have no personal acquaintance, but have often sent vessels to those waters.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel & Cod—

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1851 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant

from the shore; please state these facts in detail. For the ten preceding years our fishermen from Cape Cod especially have not frequented to any great extent the Bay of St. Lawrence for years not a vessel went there from this town (Wellfleet). Our shore fishery proving so much surer and productive than that of the Bay. Since seining has become so popular Our hook fishermen are turning their attention that way, to avoid cruising on the same ground with the seiners.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Am not aware that they procure bait at all in the Canadian Waters.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. The Ports in Gut of Canso, Georgetown, Charlottetown, Malbec & Cascumpec are largely indebted to the American fishermen for their custom. During the Reciprocity treaty these places flourished from the gains derived from that source. Since that treaty has been cancelled those same places have suffered severely from being unable to furnish supplies to American vessels.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit?

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? Of course it will be a convenience to fish in shore. When we were denied that privilege fishermen kept more at sea, did not frequent the harbors so often and employed more time in business. deducting what they would catch off shore during the time used in shore, and amt of time saved I think the privilege quite valueless.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? Am not aware that the American will gain any valuable right in this way that they do not now possess.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? The fishermen of the United States are a unit in deciding that the treaty is against them.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat

herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. They do. Fat fish will not keep in warm countries.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. I can only say that the universal opinion of those engaged in the American fisheries both at sea and on shore is that the terms of the treaty are decidedly against them, some have gone so far as to predict the total ruin of our own fisheries when brought into competition with the Dominion fisheries. For the last 25 or 30 years the Yankee has been training the Colonist his business, actually learning him his trade a large proportion of the fishermen of Nova Scotia are better acquainted on our shore than on their own. they have among them many capable men who have only to fit out their cheap vessels cheaply and enter the lists against their trainers and if this is carried to the extent that Yankee enterprise would carry it were the position reversed we may expect our business to decline and go into other hands, so depressing an effect has this view upon the fisheries of this town that already this year we have sold 15 out of a fleet of 75 vessels and added none.

NOAH SWETT.

Then personally appeared the above named Noah Swett and acknowledge the foregoing answers to be the best of his belief correct

EBENEZER T. ATWOOD

Justice of the Peace

WELLFLEET June 17, 1873

No. 14.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Chas. C. Pettingill, Salem, Massachusetts

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been in the Fishing for 25 years past, most of the time in Gloucester

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Chas A Roper of Salem, Mass

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined said articles

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Menhaden, a fish which is used principally for Mackerel Bait, and the Provinces depend mainly upon us for a supply. in my judgment it is quite a valuable consideration for them

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. this information will come to you correctly, no doubt.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. I think mainly, our advantage from the Treaty must come from the Mackerel Fishery. I have always regarded free fishing for mackerel in the Bay of St. Lawrence quite important to our fishing interest, other fisheries of no particular value to us, which comes from the Treaty, with free fishing in the Bay, which calls a large number of our vessels there give them a large amount of trade from our fleet, which they have always regarded of much value to them. Add to that their fish free in our markets, with the advantage of our Mackerel Bait which comes to them freely, I am inclined to think nearly if not quite balances their claims against us,

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? These facts are contained in Reports which I presume will be available

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? largely their Mackerel Bait comes for our coast. Value could not say

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? Could not say

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? Not very serious hinderance.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them?

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries?

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel chiefly.

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within

the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? I think a very small portion of the catch, the past fifteen years has been taken within the limits. If our fishermen had felt secure and free to fish always when three miles from land, their catch from year to year would not have been much impaired. The trouble mainly has been, a fear to fish within sight of land, whenever any Cutters were in sight, knowing there was no redress when taken. Here lies the great sacrifice which our fishermen have had to bear in the past.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? I think it has worked for their advantage rather than injury.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? This is true.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? What we call Pogies, principally taken on our coast, cannot state quantity & value.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. It cost about \$2000. dollars to fit for a three month cod fish Trip, and \$1500. dollars for a three months mackerel trip, this includes no wages or shares for the crew.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Should think they could save in fitting for the business at least 25 per cent from our cost. Provisions, salt, cost of vessels, and all labor when hired is much less than ours.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? 25 years.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel principally, other fish are little sought for in the limits.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Our Halibut Catcher often go in after fresh Bait, but always buy it, which is a good thing for them

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money value of that advantage. The amount of supplies bought by our Fishermen during the year must be quite large, while we had free fishing there, think it would be safe to say that the American fleet paid at: P. Ed Island, Cansoe, Port Hood & Halifax 250,000 dollars per year for supplies of all kinds

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland), both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit?

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? A very small per centage of the fish will be caught within the limits, still I think free fishing will add much to the value of the catch

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? I think none of any value. We have had no trouble in this respect of consequence

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I have no doubt of it

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Reports give these facts

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. this is mainly true

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in

respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. I have no doubt that all the Provinces so far as the Fishing interest has to do with it, will thrive and prosper, much better under the free fishing, during the ten years of Reciprocity or free fishing, they prospered much better than they have since, this is their own testimony, as I have heard it from very many of them, merchants as well as Fishermen themselves.

CHAS C. PETTINGILL
CUSTOM HOUSE, SALEM.

Subscribed & sworn before me this twentieth day of June 1873.

CHAS. H. ODELL *Collector*

No. 15.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? William H Nelson age 43. Plymouth Massachusetts

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been engaged in the Cod-fishery since 1851

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined it.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel Herrings & Menhaden principally

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. Mackerel fishery is carried on in Gloucester Provincetown Wellfleet Chatham Boston, Portland & other ports in Maine from which such information could be obtained

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. I cannot.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters

off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? Cannot state but Gloucester should be able to give this information.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? Bait is purchased & sent to their ports.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington?—The Menhaden Bait which are used principally for mackerel fisherman are taken wholly in Mass. & Maine and are valuable, to what extent I cannot say.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? They will necessarily diminish the catch of our fisherman as a large fleet is more destructive to schools of mackerel than smaller ones and any increase has that effect.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? I cannot say.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel fisherman are the only in shore fisherman and the number Gloucester could determine as I am not engaged in it.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel only.

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? I cannot state from my own knowledge but only from the statements made by the fishermen themselves some state it at about $\frac{1}{2}$ while others place the quantity much less and regard the inshore limit as of little or no value.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? They are—

17. Are colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in colonial in-shore waters? I should consider not

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out than when fishing alone? I think it is unquestionably so

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Menhaden are the principal bait, and are caught usually in Bays & harbors. Vessels use from 20 to 60 Bs in season, and value is from 5 to \$8 per Bl

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of

the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Cost of fitting & furnishing vessels for codfishery exclusive of 1st cost of vessel & wages would be for one trip, about \$25 per ton of vessel engaged in deep sea fisheries or Estimating catch as a full one about 2.00 per Ql currency, not including wages of men which would vary considerably.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. I cannot state with any accuracy as to the cost of fitting vessels from Canadian ports, but it is much less on all articles of foreign importation used, as duties are much less on all such articles than in U. States. The cost of their vessels is much less, not exceeding $\frac{2}{3}$ of the cost of similar class of vessels built here their salt cost them less also, which is quite an item in curing of fish and Lumber, chains & anchors are also free of duty, costing not over $\frac{3}{4}$ of prices of such articles here.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I am not acquainted to any extent.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackeril & Herrings only.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. I cannot.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Not that I am aware of.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. Supplies are purchased to a considerable extent in all the Ports of Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton; and Nova Scotia and the trade must be of considerable value The amount I am unable to state.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I cannot state with any

accuracy the number of vessels so engaged as the Gov't can easily determine that from C. House returns. Gloucester chiefly is engaged in what fisheries are prosecuted in those Waters and could furnish such information.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? It is of no value to any but mackerel fisherman

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? The American fisherman consider themselves as surrendering more than they receive and gain no rights in drying and curing fish which they did not possess before

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? More so

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? I cannot state

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. It does the only market

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United State on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. I cannot.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. I do not.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. As I have before stated the value of in shore fisheries accrues to the benefit of the mackerel fisherman only, as the Codfishery is a deep sea fishery and is chiefly pursued on the Banks of Newfoundland, and the treaty which allows fish & oil from the Provinces to come in free of duty must seriously interfere with the value of our own catch in our own markets as we cannot with increased cost of outfits & vessels, compete successfully with these fisherman. The mackerel fisherman feel that in opening our coast to their fisherman in procuring Bait and in supplying our markets with fresh fish and mackerel, which on our coast are superior in quality, is surrendering a greater value than any advantage which the treaty opens up to our fisherman in the Bay of St. Lawrence. The quantity of mackerel caught on our coast is much greater than that caught on their coast and the price of mackerel of our coast catch will command usually 25 % per cent. more than that caught in Bay of St. Lawrence. The Fresh fish trade which has increased rapidly the past few years and is now increasing by the opening up of Rail Communica-

tion is open to their fisherman by this treaty, and its value alone is in my opinion worth more to them than all the advantage we can receive back. The Codfishery interest here and in the vicinity would not were it in their power surrender our markets or open them free to their fisherman for all the rights they confer coupled with the payment of \$500,000 to them as a compensation under the reciprocity treaty the fisheries in the ports of Barrington & vicinity numbered some 50 vessels which found a market for their fish in our ports since that time their fisheries have declined in Barrington alone, to some 5 to 6 vessels only, and their fisherman are pursuing the business in vessels from here and vicinity. Some 12 entire crews coming from that section are employed in vessels here this present season, the present treaty Will encourage their fisheries and deprive us of men necessary to man our vessels, which we obtain from Provinces.

Yours respectfully

W. H. NELSON

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COUNTY OF PLYMOUTH

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

PLYMOUTH July 3, 1873

Then William H. Nelson personally appeared and made oath that the statements by him made and signed, in the foregoing document, hereto annexed, are true according to his best knowledge & belief.

Before me
(Seal.)

JNO. J. RUSSELL

Notary Public within & for said county—

No. 16.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Asa W. Small; 33, Nantucket, Mass.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been in the fishing business for twenty years.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined the articles from 18 to 22.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod, Mackerel, Haddock, Pollock, Hake, Porgee, Bluefish, Herring, Shad, Striped-Bass, Sea Bass & Halibut.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken

annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington?

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? They do not.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington?

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Not any at present.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consist of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries?

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in shore fisheries? Cod, and Mackerel.

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits?

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? The larger quantity are taken off shore.

17. Are colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? I should say not.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Yes,—That has been my experience.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Porgie & Menhaden, principally taken from Long Island, N Y. to the coast of Maine.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go

to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I am acquainted with the fisheries of Nova Scotia and Prince Edwards' Island.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod and Mackerel.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? They do not.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit?

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? Very little — or none

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? They do not gain anything, as they do not in these days cure fish or repack, but return home as soon as they get their fares

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? I

should say that the people of the British North American Provinces had the best of us, by far—

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market? It does.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

ASA W SMALL.

NANTUCKET, ss. June 10th, 1873.

Then personally appeared the above named Asa W. Small and made oath to the truth of the foregoing statements by him signed, before me.

T. C. DEFRIEZ

Collector of Customs.

No. 17.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside?

Charles E. Smalley, aged 40, } Nantucket, Mass.

Reuben C. Kenney aged 56, }

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have followed the fishing business at Sea for fifteen years.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? We have examined and read articles 18 to 22, inclusive.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Cod, Mackerel, Halibut, Haddock, Herring, and Porgies.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken

annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington?

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State, and if so, to what extent and value? Canadian fishermen do not purchase bait or Supplies in our State, to any extent.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? The Value is *nothing* in our estimation.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? They will in this way; They can man their Vessels with less expense, consequently they can undersell us, and by bringing their fish to our market they will do so, as there are no duties on them, and the result will be, our markets will soon be glutted, and fish *very low*.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? We do not know of any Canadian Boats or Vessels engaged in the fisheries, in *this State*.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? In our estimation, Two Thirds consists of Deep sea fisheries, and one third of Inshore fisheries.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel, Cod, and Porgies, chiefly *Mackerel*.

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? More than two thirds of the Mackerel are taken *outside* of the *inshore* limits,—in our opinion.—

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and not within shore? We should say, The greater portion of Mackerel taken off the coasts of British America, would be outside the in shore limits, and in the Summer Season, Mackerel are generally found wide out on the Banks.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? We should say they are not injured, but benefitted in a measure.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large

quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Should think the Colonial fishermen would be the gainers in the end by having the mackerel baited up for them.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? The Porgie is considered the best bait for the Mackerel, is taken all along the Shores & Rivers, Long Island Sound, Connecticut River, Pleasant Bay, Boston Bay, off Portsmouth, Portland, and all along the Eastern Shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. For a Vessel of Seventy tons, manned by 10 men for a trip of 3 months to the Banks for Cod Fish

Vessel.....	\$700.00
Provisions \$500. Salt \$350	\$850.00
Bait \$290. Dories \$200	\$490.00
Fish lines—Leads \$50. Sundries \$100.....	\$150.00
Mens Wages.....	1,700.00
Total	\$3,790.00

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries?

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington?

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? They do procure bait within 3 miles of the above coast.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate if you can, the money-value of that advantage. American fishermen do purchase supplies such as Salt, Bait, Ice, Barrels, and provisions &c in the Ports of the dominion of Canada.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit?

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist?

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? Do not consider it is any advantage to American fishermen, to dry nets or cure fish in any way, as by so doing, they injure themselves by the detention of getting their cargoes to market.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? More beneficial to the people of the Provinces than to the people of the United States.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. It does.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

CHARLES. E. SMALLEY
REUBEN C KENNEY

NANTUCKET, SS. June 9th, 1873.

Then personally appeared the above named Charles E. Smalley, and Reuben C. Kenney and made oath to the truth of the statements above signed by them—before me

T. C. DEFRIEZ.
Collector of Customs.

No. 18.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Elisha Crowell; Brooklyn. New-York. 59 Years

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Twenty five years experience in catching, buying and selling fish

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Caleb Nickerson, Esq. Brooklyn. New York.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel. Herring. Codfish. Haddock. Hake. Bass. Shad. Porgies. Menhaden. Spanish Macker Eels Lobsters. Bluefish. Sword & Week fish

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured.

Mackerel	75.000 Barrels.	Menhaden.	500.000 Bbls.
Codfish	70.000 Quintals.	Haddock.	15.000 Bbls.
Bluefish	75.000 Bbls.	All other kind	300.000
Lobsters.	10.000 Bbls.		Annually.
Porgies.	50.000 Bbls.		

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. I estimate from waters in and adjacent to this state (N Y.) about Nine (9) Million dollars in Mackerel alone. All other Kinds of Fish about Ten (10) Million dollars.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? Have no estimate.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? Do not take bait from our waters, but purchase from the United States.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? About an equal value, except the privilege of procuring bait from the United States.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in shore fisher-

ies cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? It will probably be a detriment to our Markets to the amount of Two hundred Millions.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? None.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? fully Nine tenths ($\frac{9}{10}$) consist of deep sea fisheries; about one tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) in shore fisheries

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel & Herring

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Nine tenths off shore. ($\frac{9}{10}$) One tenth in shore. ($\frac{1}{10}$)

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes. a very large proportion caught outside, say $\frac{9}{10}$

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? No.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Yes.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Menhaden taken from American waters all in shore. Fifty Thousand dollars benefit to the British Provinces, annually—

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Menhaden, Mackerel, Codfish, Herring, Bluefish, Lobsters, Porgies, Haddock Hake, Halibut, Swordfish & Weekfish Cost of Schooner. \$12,000 Fitting, equipping & furnishing for a cruise of thirty days, \$3,000

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Estimated expense of Canadian Vessels one half of the same class of vessel built in the United States, on account of the inferior Materials & Workmanship also cheapness of Labor

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which

of these fisheries? I am—for Twenty five years—having fished on their coasts for codfish & mackerel.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel, Herring, & Lobsters.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. No answer. See question, 27.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Do not procure any bait, not plenty in Canadian waters.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do at Halifax and in the ports of the straits of Canso & Prince Edward Islands. And it is a great advantage to the Dominion ports to have American vessels on account of trade & traffic,

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? About one hundred and fifty sail of Schooners. Valued at one Million five hundred thousand dollars; Employing Fifteen hundred men—catching Mackerel and codfish valued at seven hundred thousand dollars, one tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) within three miles and nine tenths ($\frac{9}{10}$) outside the three mile limit

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? About one tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) when the fish lay in shore and cannot be taken off shore.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to re-pack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? I do not consider it of any value to American fishermen

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American provinces as to the people of the United States? It is more benefit to the Provinces, than the United states.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all

descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Refer to statistics.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. Yes, it *is the only market*

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872 inclusive. Refer to Statistics in possession of the government.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. I do not know of any fish or fish oil being shipped to Canada.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. I consider the Treaty of more value to the British Provinces than to the United States for the following reasons; First—for the privilege of fishing on the coast of the United States. Second.—the marketing and shipping their fish free. Third—the furnishing our fishing vessels with supplies.

ELISHA CROWELL

STATE OF NEW YORK }
CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK } S. S.

Elisha Crowell, merchant of the City of New York, being duly sworn, deposes and says, that the answers made by him to the several interrogatories as above, have been duly considered by him, and that the same are based on his knowledge and experience of the fisheries, and that the subject matter therein contained is true to his best knowledge and belief so far as the same can be ascertained.

ELISHA CROWELL

Sworn before me This 18 day of June 1873

A. M. SARES (Seal.)

Notary Public.

No. 19.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Caleb Nickerson, 48 years, Brooklyn, New York,

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Twenty years experience in catching, buying and selling fish.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood

who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Elisha Crowell Esq. Brooklyn, New York,

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel, Herring, Codfish, Haddock, Hake, Bass, Shad, Porgies, Menhaden, Spanish Mackerel, Eels, Lobsters, Blue fish, Sword and Weak fish.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured.

Mackerel,	75,000 Barrels
Codfish,	70,000 Quintals
Blue fish,	75,000 Bbls
Lobsters,	10,000 "
Porgies,	50,000 "
Haddock,	15,000 "

Menhaden	500,000 Bbls
all other kinds	300,000 "

Annually.

(The above estimate includes both *fresh*
& *salt* fish)

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. About Seven Million dollars in Mackerel alone. All other kinds of fish, one hundred and Twenty five Million dollars.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington?

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? Do not take bait from the waters, but purchase from the United States; but can avail themselves of this privilege under the treaty.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? About an equal value, except the privilege of procuring bait from the United States.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? It will. Probably a detriment to our markets to the amount of Two Hundred Millions.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? None

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? fully nine tenths ($\frac{9}{10}$) consist of deep sea fisheries, about one tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) inshore fisheries

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel & Herring

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Nine tenths ($\frac{9}{10}$) off shore. One tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) on shore.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen on the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes. A very large proportion caught outside

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? No.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Yes.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where it is principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Menhaden—taken from American waters—all in shore. Fifty thousand dollars benefit to the British provinces.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Menhaden, Mackerel, Codfish, Herring, Blue fish, Lobsters, Porgies, Haddock, Hake, Halibut, Sword & Week fish. Cost of Schooner \$12,000 Fitting, equipping, & furnishing for a cruise of Thirty days, or more \$6,000

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Estimated expense of Canadian Vessel, one half of the same kind or class of Vessel built in the United States. On account of the inferior materials and workmanship, also cheapness of labor.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I am, for Twenty years having fished on their Coasts for Codfish & Mackerel.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Codfish, Mackerel, Herring, Lobster.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. Uncertain as to correct figures. Question 27 seems to embrace some of the information sought.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent,

and what is the value? Do not procure any bait. The kind used are not found in sufficient numbers in Canadian Waters.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money value of that advantage. They do at Halifax, and in the ports of the Straits of Canso and Prince Edwards Island, and it is a great advantage to the Dominion ports to have American Vessels, on account of trade and traffic.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? About One hundred and fifty sail of Schooners. Valued at one million five hundred thousand dollars; Employing Fiteen hundred men, Catching Mackerel and Codfish, valued at seven hundred thousand dollars, one tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) within three miles limit, and nine-tenths ($\frac{9}{10}$) out side the three mile limits.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? About one tenth ($\frac{1}{10}$) when the fish lay in shore and cannot be taken off shore.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? I do not consider it of any value to American fisherman.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? It is more benefit to the Provinces than to the United States.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? I estimate.

100,000	Barrels	Mackerel	valued at	\$1,000,000
50,000	"	Herring	" "	500,000
75,000	Quintals	Codfish	" "	300,000
50,000	"	Hake & Haddock	" "	100,000
10,000	Bbls.	fish oil	" "	160,000
7 to 100,000	"	Alwivies at \$4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Bbl.	say	300,000
All other kinds of fish				25,000
Total				\$2,410,000

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. Yes, it is the only market.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. The Statistical department of the Government can, perhaps, answer this. I can only *estimate* based on answer to question 31, to wit:

Say on Mackerel.....	\$200,000
Cod.....	60,000
Herring.....	50,000
Haddock.....	20,000
Fish oil.....	32,000
Aggregate.....	362,000

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872 inclusive. I do not know of any fish or fish oil being shipped to Canada.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. I consider the treaty of more value to the British Provinces than to the United States, for the following reasons.

1st for the privilege of fishing on the Coast of the U. S.

2d the marketing and shipping their fish free.

3d the furnishing of our fishing vessels with supplies.

STATE OF NEW YORK }
CITY & COUNTY OF NEW YORK, } ss.

Caleb Nickerson of the City of New York being duly sworn deposes and says, That the answers made by him to the several interrogatories as above, have been duly considered by him, and that the same are based on his knowledge and experience of the subject of the fisheries, and that he believes the same to be true so far as can be ascertained without official statistical figures.

CALEB NICKERSON.

Sworn before me

This 13 day of June 1873.

(Seal.)

I B GREGG *Notary Public.*

No. 20.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Horatio Babson; thirty six; Gloucester, Mass.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with

the American and Canadian Atlantic sea fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have had sixteen years experience in the fishing business. Now own eleven vessels.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. John Pow & hundreds of others if required.

4. A copy of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel, Halibut Codfish, Pollock, Hake, Menhaden, and many other kinds.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. Would refer to the Genl Inspector's report of the annual catch of mackerel. One hundred (120,000) and twenty thousand bbls annually I should judge to be about an average catch taken off our own coast most of which are caught inside of three miles from the coast.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. The Mackerel fishery on our coast I consider more valuable than that on the British coast. As the quality of mackerel taken on our coast is far superior to those taken on the coast of Nova Scotia and Bay of St. Lawrence. The Menhaden fishery, the catch of which amounted to nearly eight hundred thousand dollars off Gloucester last year are caught only upon our coast, and have never been known to frequent British waters. The Cod and other fisheries I regard as equal in value.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? The quantity and value taken by Canadian fishermen is of more value to them, than to our fishermen, as our American vessels seldom catch anything but mackerel within the three-mile limit.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? I have known but two or three instances of Canadian vessels taking bait within three miles on our Coast, but they do purchase Menhaden for bait in large quantities.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? The value to be derived there from is of equal value to Canadians as it is to ourselves, should they improve the privilege as we do.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? American fishermen can supply our markets, and all fish caught by foreigners will have a tendency to injure our fishermen.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? I know of none at this present time

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? My opinion judging from the catch of our own vessels that seven eighths of the catch is taken out side of the three mile limit

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in shore fisheries? For Mackerel principally, and occasionally Herring

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? During the last sixteen years I have had vessels engaged in the Bay of Chaleur & Bay of St Lawrence, and during that time I have questioned our Captains very particularly on this question and I think I can truly say that about one eighth part of the mackerel are taken within three miles of the shore and seven eighths outside of the limits

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the inshore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? A large porportion, in fact about all the mackerel our vessels catch are taken outside the limits, late in the Fall the mackerel tend in shore.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial inshore waters? Only to a very limited extent.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? The larger quantity of bait thrown the more it tends to toll the Mackerel, hence the catch will be larger.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Pogies, sometimes called Menhaden are the best bait for Mackerel. They are caught only upon the New England Coast and tend inside of three miles. The value of Menhaden taken in 1873 amounted to nearly (\$800,000.00) Eight hundred thousand dollars.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. The vessels are sailed on shares, crew receive on half of proceeds. Average expense of a vessel for a five months cruise thirty five hundred dollars for out fits Expenses of 12 men five months three thousand dollars making in all about sixty-five hundred dollars for the voyage.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference be-

tween the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Our American fishermen cost about twice as much as the Canadian vessels, our vessels being better built from the best of white oak, and fitted with the best of rigging, sails &c., while the Canadian, Prince Edward Island, and Nova Scotia vessels are built from soft wood (spruce) and are rigged and fitted in a very inferior manner compared with our vessels. The cost of outfits for a Canadian fishing vessel to pursue a five months voyage would not be over one half of one of our American fishermen, allowing the vessels to be of equal size

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? With all the sea fisheries on the coast

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel, Herring, Halibut, Cod, Hake, Pollock and some others of less importance.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. I estimate the annual value during the above years at about sixty thousand dollars per year for the fisheries inside of three miles. Outside of the three miles the value is of greater importance and depends all together on the energy which is made to catch the fish, The more vessels and men employed the greater the value.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Our vessels purchase large quantities of Herring & Mackerel for Bank fishing. I should judge we paid them one hundred and seventy thousand dollars annually in cash.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. I should judge the *profits* to be derived from the business which the Canadians receive from our vessels in purchasing supplies from them to be equal to one hundred thousand dollars annually.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I should judge about seven hundred and fifty sail, valued as near as I can judge at (\$7,500,000.) seven million five hundred thousand. Each vessel will average twelve men. Principal fish caught are Mackerel, Cod, Halibut,

and Herring. Annual value of fish caught, one and three-quarter million dollars. Value of fish taken inside of three miles about sixty thousand dollars.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast: whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? I do not regard it of any value as far as profit is concerned. The only benefit to be derived is freedom of Ports and free from annoyance.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? The value of the above privileges I regard as of very little importance.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? Far more beneficial to British subjects.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? I do not know the amount.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the greater part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon does not the United States afford the only market. It does nearly all.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. I do not know the amount, but would refer to statistics.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. I do not know.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. My opinion is that England will derive more benefit from the treaty of Washington than the United States, and it is the opinion of nearly all who are engaged in the fishing business, that we have already granted more privileges to the subjects of Great Britain under the treaty than we shall receive. The admission of British fish into our markets free of duty is a serious blow to the fishing interests of the United States. Our fishermen can supply our markets from the catch on our own coast and the deep sea fisheries. Since the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty I have kept about one half of my vessels employed off our coast, and in every instance they have landed more fish and stocked more money than those that have been employed in the Bay of St Lawrence. When the Dominion Government authorized a system of licensing American fishermen for which they charged fifty cents per ton for the privilege of fishing within the three-mile limit, freedom of their ports &c.—Our Captains during the first year took licenses (part of them) and the benefit they derived from it they did not consider equal to the amount paid, and the next

year when they went to the Bay the Dominion Government charged one dollar per ton for license. Our Captains declined taking licenses considering the price too much for the benefit to be derived.

HORATIO BABSON

GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873

Personally appeared H. Babson and acknowledged the above to be his free act and deed and that these statements are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Before me

AARON PARSONS J P,

I Charles P. Mitchell, Captain of the American fishing schooner Modena B. Jeraulds have been engaged in fishing in the Bay of St Lawrence during the last fifteen years, Have read the questions and answers herein annexed and I fully concur in them all.

CHARLES P. MITCHELL

GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873

I George W. Lane, Captain of the American fishing schooner Adela B. Hartwell have been engaged in fishing in the Bay of St Lawrence during the last fifteen years, Have read the questions and answers herein annexed and I fully concur in them all.

GEORGE W. LANE.

GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873

No. 21.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Frank. W. Friend Gloucester, Mass

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been engaged in the Fishing business as Owner and Fitter several years.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Perkins Bros. Charles Parkhurst W. H. Friend & others.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined articles 18 to 22

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel Herring Pories &c—

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1851 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? Must be obtained from Statistics

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? All their Pogie Bait is obtained from the U. S.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington?

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? Nothing except cheaper vessels and more competition

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Uncertain

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Nearly all the Fishing untill September is off shore deep sea fishing

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel principally

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Think $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Mackerel caught before the 15th of Sept are caught outside the three-mile limit

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? They are, Bank Bradly & Orphan being the best fishing grounds—in the summer season of Magdalen Island some Mackerel are caught

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permittting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? No In good seasons they are much benefitted by American vessels fishing in their Waters

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Yes

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Porgies, mostly taken on the shores of Massachusetts & Maine

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning

a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Pogie Fishing requires a crew of 10 men at a cost of about 300 a month. Mackerel Fishing about the same exclusive of crews Wages, Bank Fishing \$400 a month this includes Barrels salt costs of fitting Insurance &c—

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Don't know the expense of fitting Canadian vessels but should judge from what I have seen of their Vessels & fittings that they could be run for one half of what American Vessels could

Sch Finance

for the season of 1872—

Fished on Georges from Feb. 1 to July 15, then went to the Bay of St. Lawrence and stopped untill Sept. 20 and then followed Georges Fishing untill Nov. 15—

Cost of Stores	1200	
Cost " Salt	500	
Cost " Barrels	240	
Cost of Running the Vessel sails rigging &c—	900	
Insurance—	350	
Bait	800	
	<hr/>	
	3990	
Crew Share	3900	\$7890. 00
Value of 260-000 w Codfish	5800	
" " 220 Bl Mackerel	2400	
	<hr/>	\$8200. 00

This was more than an average Season work—

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? Am well acquainted with them.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel mostly. Halibut & Cod fish in small quantities.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent; and what is the value? As a general thing, the American fishermen buy their bait of the Canadians.

29. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent; and, if that is the case, is it not

an advantage to the ports of the dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season; explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. Yes; during the Reciprocity Treaty nearly the whole American Fleet refitted in Canso & Charlottetown. In some cases their Outfits amounting to \$1,500. I should think the Mackerel Fleet would average \$600.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit. About 660 Vessels are annually engaged they average about 60 tons worth \$60 pr ton \$2,350,-000 employing 8,000 men.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profits derived; and in what does it consist? In case we are deprived of Fishing at the mouths of the rivers. the Fishey would be entirely valueless—

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? No, the Canadians are more benefitted than we are

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? It is more benefit to the Canadians than to the American Fisherman

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? See report of U. S. Statistics

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. No Fat Mackerel & Hering are shipped anywhere except the U. S.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them, annually and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. See Report from Beaureou of Statistics

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. The amount of remission of Duties on Canadian Fish and the free market of the U. S.—for their Mackerel, & other Fish, Saving of Expenses of Cutters, And the benefits of a large trade from the American Vessels, the admission to our coasts for Menhaden & Mackerel, will aggregate an advantage of nearly \$2,000,000 a year in gross amount—For this we obtain the privilege of persuing a fishery, which after deducting expenses will not nett to the American Fisherman \$10,000 pr year—

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. What we desire most by the treaty of Washington is to have accorded to American Fishing Vessels, the same rights & privileges that have ever been accorded to English Vessels in American Waters. If this courtesy is to be reckoned at the money value the Dominion may have some claim, but if the in shore fishery is the only concession, barring us the right to fish at the mouths of the rivers, the U. States gets absolutely nothing for the privilege of building up a Foreign fishery at the expense of its own citizens.

FRANK. W. FRIEND

SIDNEY FRIEND

Of the firm of Sidney Friend & Bro

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX S } SS. GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873

Subscribed and sworn to,

Before me

(Seal)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public.

No. 22.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? George W. Plumer; Aged 55 yrs; Gloucester Massachusetts

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been familiar with the business for more than thirty years, and engaged in Mackerel—Herring and other fisheries fifteen years in American waters, also at Newfoundland, Gulf of St Lawrence. P. E. Island &c &c

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Andrew Leighton and hundreds of others if required

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Codfish. Halibut. Mackerel. Pohagan. Herring and Pollock are most valuable, but many other kinds could be mentioned

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where

that information can be procured. The kinds are those above named, but the quantity and value is so enormous that a long time would be required to ascertain from Statistics the actual fact, or a correct estimate

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. British vessels have had no occasion formerly to take fish in American Waters excepting to a limited extent. but under the Treaty of Washington they will have every facility that American fishermen have now or formerly enjoyed. and our markets being free will afford them a decided advantage over us from the fact of vessels being cheaper built and sailed than ours. I doubt if they ever improve these opportunities to any great extent. but if they choose to do so could employ one thousand Sail of Vessels in American fisheries, as well as Citizens of the United States

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? the quantity taken by Canadian and other British fishermen is very large and of great value to them. but to Americans of little value comparatively from the fact that the British takes mostly Codfish and Herring—while Americans seldom fish for Cod within three miles of land and only have occasion to take Mackerel and Herrings within the limits of three miles

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? I have never known but one British vessel to take bait in the Waters of Massachusetts, but they do purchase Pohagan bait salted in considerable quantities

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? This depends entirely on their improving these advantages as before stated. the privilege is as valuable to them as to us, if they make the best of it

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? American fishermen can supply the Markets of the United States with all fish caught in our waters. so that all landed by foreigners are so much taken from our own fishermen

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your States, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? None at this time June 1873

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? I am of the opinion that more than nine tenths ($\frac{9}{10}$) of all fish caught by Americans in British waters are deep sea fish. or taken more than three miles from land.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? If at all only for Mackerel and Herring

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the

in-shore limits? In answering this question I would state that having made enquiry of several competent Masters of vessels engaged many years in Mackerel fishing in British waters, they all inform me that only a very few times in many years have they ever seen an opportunity to fish within three miles of the shore, the difficulty has been they were not allowed to fish outside the three miles limit, being captured or annoyed by British Cruisers when five or six miles from land.

The question constantly arising of limitation, and in my judgment the same trouble may come under the new Treaty of determining the Mouths of Rivers, as Mackerel frequent the entrance of creeks and Rivers to obtain feed

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? A large proportion are off shore, but late in Summer and Autumn they frequent the mouths of Rivers and in shore for feed

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? Only to a very limited extent

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? The more Bait thrown, and the better the quality the more Mackerel are taken, and Canadians would have the advantage, our vessels using more bait

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Pohagan called "Pogies" make the best bait for Mackerel—and are caught on the New England Coast only—and usually within three Miles of shore. my estimate of the value is (\$750,000) three-fourths of a million dollars.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. The vessels are usually sailed on Shares, the men receiving one-half the proceeds of Sales of fish, but I should estimate the expenses and earnings of crews would average for the Mackerel Season of about five months, three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to each vessel

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Having been engaged in the fishing business at P. E. Island I should estimate the expense there at two thirds $\frac{2}{3}$ for each vessel of that of our vessels, for the reason that the vessels are built cheaper. The men are fed poorer and of course at a lower rate. There rate of duties on imported Articles are less,

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coast of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? In the Capacity of Owner for about fifteen years in Mackerel

and Herring mostly, at Gulf of St Lawrence Newfoundland. Bay of Fundy and particularly P. E. Island

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel, Herrings- Cod, Halibut, Pollock, Haddock Hake and some other varieties

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? They do obtain bait, and I estimate the value at two hundred thousand dollars \$200,000 which is paid in Cash to British fishermen.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. Money value of this trade \$500,000 Half Million They do obtain supplies at all accessible British Ports. Say at all places in Bay of Fundy Halifax and other ports in Nova Scotia, Straits of Canso, Sydney in Cape Breton Charlottetown and Georgetown and others in P. E. Island Bay Chaleur—and many other smaller places

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic Coast of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? I estimate the number of Vessels so employed at Seven hundred, value at \$3,000,000 *three millions* Seven thousand men. fish taken are Cod, Mackerel, Halibut, Hake—Herrings Haddock—Pollock. &c &c

Value of fish one and one half Million dollars and the amount taken within three miles of land at fifty thousand dollars

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? Not over five per cent., and that from occasionally catching Mackerel, and a small amount derived from taking Herrings

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to re-pack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? the value of drying Nets and making fish are very small, and the right to land fish in transit we have always had, or it has usually been done

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? more beneficial to British Subjects as all fat Mackerel and Herrings, and most other kinds of fat fish, are and must be marketed in the United States, as they will not bear heat to West Indies

31. What is the amount and value of Colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Amount unknown, but will be very largely increased with a free Market

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. Fat fish cannot be sent into hot climate as they melt and become worthless, consequently the U. States consumes nearly all of that description

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Am not in possession of the Statistics to show a correct answer to this question, but do know that they will be largely increased provided the Canadians and other British Subjects improve their opportunities, and in this connection I would say that the Canadian fisheries are controlled to a great extent by Merchants of Wealth from the Island of Jersey, they having very extensive establishments, and with all facilities at command hire their Men and feed them as common Sailors, -thereby greatly reducing the Cost of Catching fish, while American fishermen earn more than double, and are fed and clothed better than the foreigners, showing that if so disposed British Subjects can supply the United States with fish cheaper than we can do it ourselves

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Unknown.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. For reasons already given, and Many others that could be advanced, my opinion is that Great Britain has the best of the Treaty already, without any other Condition being granted.

And feeling at liberty to express myself fully under this head, must say that in my judgement and in that of others engaged in the fisheries here, a mistake of great importance has been made in excluding us from the Mouths of Rivers as Mackerel which are our most valuable fish frequent those waters where their natural feed is found and this is frequently the case at points where the fresh and sea waters meet at the Rivers Mouth, and this question or line should be clearly defined, as otherwise the same trouble may arise in drawing the line, as grew out of the three mile question

G. W. FLUMER

GLOUCESTER

Mass June 1873

MASS)
ESSEX SS.)

JULY 21, 1873

Personally appeared the said Geo W. Plumer and made oath that these statements are true to the best of his knowledge and belief,
Before me.

AARON PARSONS,
J. P.

No. 23.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- FOUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Harvey Knowlton & Edward A. Horton Gloucester Mass.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been personally engaged as practical Fishermen twenty two years, Fitted and owned vessels seven years We now fit out eight vessels.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? We have.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel Codfish Pollock Menhaden

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. The reports of the Inspector Gen of Fish for the State of Massachusetts comprises the most accurate statements. Think about 200,000 Bbls of Mackerel per year is a fair average for Mass vessels

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. We consider the Mackerel fishery on our own coast as valuable as that on the British coast, the Codfishery in either case is not very valuable. The real difference is in the fact that the provincial Fishermen never have had the enterprise to avail themselves to any great extent of the benefits of this fishery

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? If during reciprocity is meant, (within three miles of the shore) our vessels took about 20000 Bbls Mackerel in the best seasons. Our Mackerel and Menhaden fishery is valuable to the Canadians if they use them

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? They buy Menhaden or pogie bait for Mackerel from the Americans. The Menhaden fishery is purely American. None have ever been known to frequent British waters.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? That depends entirely on their own enterprise. They have never yet done much more than fish of their own coasts.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? No.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? We have seen some few of their vessels on our coasts for Mackerel say 20 vessels 250 men.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Fisheries are deep sea fisheries. At present all the Cod & Halibut are caught on the Grand, Brown & Georges Banks.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Almost entirely for Mackerel.

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? During the latter part of the season Mackerel tend in shore and for about 6 weeks the fishing is better in shore. On a basis of 300 000 Bbls. as the whole seasons catch for the Massachusetts fleet and allowing 100 000 Bbls to be taken in the Gulf of St Lawrence which is a large estimate $\frac{1}{5}$, or 20 000 Bbls might under favorable circumstances be taken within three miles but even during reciprocity less than 100,000 Bbls were taken one year both from British and American Waters by the entire Mass fleet.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes, Untill the 20th of Sept about all the Mackerel are taken outside of three miles. The Magdalen Islands afford good fishing to the last of the season.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? No. No. Every man that ever caught a mackerel knows that the larger the fleet the better for all.

18. Are not more fish caught, by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Certainly, a large proportion of the Canadian Fishery is carried on in small boats near the shore, say within 20 miles. Our fleet, with their immense quantities of bait is of immense advantage to the Canadians.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Prov-

inces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Menhaden, which are taken for bait for their Oil and the refuse made into Guano worth 60 Dollars per Ton, The gross receipts from this fishery for all purposes would not be less than four million dollars; it is entirely an American fishery.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. The average cost for a season's work of eight months is about 3000 Dollars or 3,500, as including salt, Bait Provisions, Trawls, lines. Gear & Boats insurance wear and tear.

Time of 12 men 8 months

\$3840,00

The average value of the entire fares from 5 to 8000 dollars

7340

This is when no losses are made.

Out of a fleet of less than 500 Schooners at Gloucester the average loss has been for the last ten years over 10 vessels yearly and 100 lives yearly The vessels and fares are an entire loss as they are insured in the Mutual fishing office and all owners of vessels share in the loss.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. The American vessels cost 80 Dollars per ton present Gov't Measurement, the Canadian vessels cost from 30 to 35 Dollars per ton The difference in fitting is in the price of Gear Boats &c and the Canadian Fishermen are fed on Fish and potatoes principally while the Americans have fresh meat, salt meat Pork Vegetables in fact as good as the markets afford.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? With all the fisheries on those coasts.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel principally, some Codfish and Hali-

but
24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. The Mackerel fishery within three miles of the British coast would probably average under the most favorable circumstances 15 to 20,000 Bbls of Mackerel annually, worth 100000 Dollars net. From this amount should be deducted the cost of catching (say 250 vessels, 6 weeks, together with time of men employed Bait salt &c, in fact the fish are worthless in the water. The Gulf of St Lawrence Mackerel fishery probably produces 100000 Bbls of Mackerel less than one fifth are caught within three miles of the shore. The Statistics of Mass fisheries shows that when totally excluded from

the inshore fisheries our vessels have caught more Mackerel than when freely admitted to them, consequently the only advantage obtained is the privilege of free ports and freedom from annoyance.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Yes, American Cod Fishermen buy large quantities of Bait from the Canadian shore Fishermen. Our vessels never catch their Bait always buy it some vessels pay as high as \$1000,00 yearly to British fishermen for Bait.

26. Do not American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. Yes, 200 000 Dollars is yearly paid for Bait. During Reciprocity, nearly all the American fleet refitted in the Straits of Canso and Ports of Prince Edward Island and Halifax At a cost of not less than \$500 000,00 This trade had grown to such dimensions that upon the imposition of the harsh measures adopted by the Canadian Govt against American Fishermen there was a universal outcry on the part of the merchants and inhabitants of these ports.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? The Codfishery on the Banks employ about 200 Vessels & 2400 Men The Mackerel Fishery from 3 to 400 Vessels 6000 Men Value of Vessels about 2000 000 Dollars, Value of Mackerel about 700 000 Dollars Value of Codfish & Halibut about 1 000 000 Dollars No Codfish or Halibut of any account are taken within three miles. About 15 or 20 000 Bbls Mackerel were usually taken in the best season during reciprocity within three miles, in poor seasons much less,

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? That depends entirely on the amount of mackerel taken. If mackerel are plenty, the price is consequently reduced and the mackerel fishery is at all times precarious. The whole matter is conditional and problematical. The convenience of the ports, freedom from annoyance and capture is the chief consideration. The Mackerel fishery may be best on our own coast for years, it may be better on the Canadian coast, the liberty to pursue the fish wherever they may be is the main advantage in opening the coast fishery. Statistics shows that our vessels have done better on our own coasts when totally excluded from the British fisheries than when freely admitted to them.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what

are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? We never dry nets or cure fish on their shores that idea applied when the fisheries were carried on in small boats. The right to transship cargoes to buy or sell is a right which every American Vessel has in English ports, as English Vessels have in American ports. The Dominion Govt under the clause in their law (*of preparing to fish*) included every transaction of a commercial nature and perpetrated outrage after outrage on American Vessels. The American fishermen have never accepted the character of outlaws accorded them and claim equality before the law with other citizens engaged in marine business.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? Where we shall receive one dollar's benefit they will receive 20 the only matter they have for sale is courtesy.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? See Volume III 9th Census U States.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat hering, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market? Yes. Without the markets of the U States the entire fishery of the Dominion would be valueless, except for home consumption.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. See Volume III 9th Census U States.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Canadian Statistics will show this.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. Our vessels after the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty paid a License fee of 50 cts per Ton. This was the valuation placed upon the inshore fisheries by the Dominion Govt. We paid this more to escape annoyance and capture on the slightest pretext and for the freedom of their ports, than for the value of the fish. When it was increased to one and afterward 2 Dollars per Ton our vessels could not afford to pay it and it was universally repudiated. The Revenue derived could not have been over 10,000 Dollars and with all the advantages of free ports, freedom from capture and annoyance, we considered the price of this fishery too high and the Dominion failed to obtain Customers. Then followed the repeal of the license system and the inauguration of a policy which in its details we consider little better than *Piracy*. The value of the Dominion Fisheries depend entirely on the action of the U States Govt. If admitted to free Markets in the United States their fisheries become prosperous, and as they gain, our fishermen must lose. Without the Markets of the United States their fisheries are valueless except for

home consumption, and the fishermen of the U States can supply the entire demand of our own markets from our own shores and the deep sea fisheries without being indebted to them for a single fish. 500 000 Dollars yearly will not pay for the advantages they gain by the Treaty of Washington.

HARVEY KNOWLTON
EDWARD, A. HORTON

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX } ss.

GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873. Then personally appeared the above named Harvey Knowlton and Edward A. Horton, and made oath that the statements herein made including answer to Question 35, are true to the best of their knowledge and belief

Before me
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

No. 24.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ———— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Albion K. Peirce

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been to the Bay of St Lawrence Thirty years and also off our own coasts

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? Yes

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Menhaden and Mackerel. It should be understood that in taking mackerel with the hook when we get a school alongside biting well we may get our whole fare from that school but if we were 5 miles from shore and the Cutters breaks up our fishing we may not find a school ready to bite well again for a month. Mackerel are not like any other fish, one weeks steady catching would make a seasons work for us and if the mackerel should happen to tend off shore and bite well the inshore fishing would be useless to us, but if the fleet should get up a biting schooll say just 3 nules from the shore the annoyance and breaking up of the fleets fishing would be the trouble, more time is spent by the fleet in hunting up the mackerel and finding schools that will bite than in the catching

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the year 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the

American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. Menhaden are caught only on our coasts, the Canadians have to pay 6 to 8 dollars per barrel, $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Mackerel caught are caught within three miles of our own shores. With the same enterprise on their part our inshore fisheries are of as much benefit to the Canadians as theirs is to us, the Menhaden are used at the rate of 6 Bbls to every 100 Bbls Mackerel.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? See Statistics.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? They buy Menhaden bait that are caught by American fishermen and they will probably take their own bait under the treaty.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? The Menhaden fishery is quite valuable and also the Mackerel fishery and the Canadians with the same enterprise would make our fisheries as valuable to them as theirs could be to us.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? The competition of their cheap vessels and crews will lower the price of fish.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? The most of their fisheries are carried on in boats and usually within 20 miles of the shore some of their vessels have been with our fleet on our coasts.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? The cod fishery is a deep sea fishery entirely. The Mackerel fishery is in the bay of St. Lawrence about $\frac{1}{5}$ in 120,000 bbls are caught by American fishermen in-shore.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel.

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the inshore limits? Four-fifths are taken outside the three mile limits when the Fishery was free.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? yes late in the season mackerel tend in shore, but our vessels do better off shore as the crews are kept on the vessels when if we were inshore they would be off half the time.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? no.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? most certainly wherever the mackerel are fed they remain.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Clams & Menhaden mixed.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. For a season's trip to the Bay, for Barrels, salt, provisions, Insurance, & wear and tear, 3,000..

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. not more than one-half the cost of the American vessel. The American vessel stands about 100 Dollars per ton rigged and ready for sea, The Canadian about \$50. per ton. Their men are fed principally on fish and potatoes. Our vessels have the best supplies the market affords

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? all the fisheries

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? The Mackerell is all we take a general thing

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent and what is the value? We buy all our bait for all fisheries on the Banks Value \$200,000,00 which we pay to British fishermen.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money value of that advantage. Yes, every vessel going to the Grand Banks and Western banks stop for supplies and Bait at a cost of not less 800 Dollars each, The Mackerel fishermen under the Treaty will probably spend as much more, The Trade will amount to nearly if not quite a Million of dollars.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? About 7 or 800 Vessels, 9000 men value $2\frac{1}{2}$ Millions. During Reciprocity about $\frac{1}{6}$ of the Mackerel were taken inshore, say 15 to 20000 bbls. We have done much better off our own coasts. For Codfish & Halibut our vessels go to the Grand & Browns Banks. All the Herring are bought from British Fishermen.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? The cost of taking any kind of fish fully equals their value to the producer all profits are made by the wholesale dealers. In ascertaining the value if 20 000 bbls of Mackerel are taken worth \$150 000,00 we must take from that amount the expense of 400 Vessels and 6000 men at least for one months time in taking them. The whole valuation of the shore fishery so far as profits are concerned is absolutely nothing

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them, to be worth annually, in the aggregate? No we think we had commercial rights in British ports but have been denied them.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? more to them.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. it does.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. refer to the Treasury reports.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Don't know of any American vessel ever carrying fish to Canadian ports.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. The principal reason for satisfaction on the part of the fishermen of the

United States is the relief from annoyance which the Treaty affords. In the prosecution of the fishing business the liberty to take fish at all points where they may tend will scarcely afford them a living. The mackerel fishery is so variable and uncertain that we need all facilities for taking them wherever they are as a few days good fishing often makes the seasons work. Our own coast furnishes the best Mackerel, and we have done better there than in the bay, but we like to have the privilege of following the Mackerel, and the Canadians will be benefited as much as we are in coming on our coasts.

We fully agree { A. K. PIERCE, Master of Sch Wm. S. Baker.
and endorse { GEO. BEARSE. " " " Col. Cook.
Capt. Peirce { JAMES R. HAMILTON, " Thorwaldsten.
statements. { JOHN McDONALD, " " Electric Flash.

Sworn to and subscribed this 5th June 1873 before me,

ADDISON CENTER, *Dep. Collector.* (Seal.)

No. 25.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Sixty years, Geo. Norwood of the Firm Geo. Norwood & Son Gloucester Mass

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been engaged in the Fisheries for 25 years.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? Yes.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Codfish, Mackerel, Menhaden.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State, from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. See Inspector General's Report, on the Fisheries of Mass. State House, Boston.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. Mackerel and Menhaden principally, Mackerel has a value which fluctuates from \$6.00 to \$20.00 per bbl. With the same degree of Enterprise on the part of the Canadians our Coast Fisheries, would be as valuable to them as what they possess would be to our Fishermen.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken

by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? That can be ascertained accurately only by Statistical Returns.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? They buy Menhaden Bait that are caught by American Fishermen in American Waters,

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? The Canadians have never pursued any important Fishery on our Coasts. Their own shore Fisheries more than equal their Enterprize.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? The answer must be Comparative. They can produce Fish at one half the expense of American Fisherman, and it would naturally affect the price of Fish

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them?

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Cod-fishery & Halibut fishery are entirely a Deep Sea Fishery. The Mackerel Fishery is both a shore and deep Sea Fishery, About one fifth of the Entire Mackerel Fishery can be considered as a Shore Fishery.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? *Mackerel.*

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Under the Reciprocity Treaty, the Entire British Shore free more than $\frac{4}{5}$ ths were caught outside the 3 mile limits.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? No.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Yes: it is a well established fact founded on experience of over 40 years that in the Mackerel Fishery the larger amount of vessels in the Fleet the better for all.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Clams & Menhaden mixed are the best, Clams are found on both American & English Shores. Menhaden are found only on the

American Shore. The value of the Menhaden Fishery is from 300 to 500 thousand dollars at Gloucester

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. \$3000.00 for a season to the Bay including Bait, Barrels, Salt, Insurance, Provisions and the Wear & Tear.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is, and the reason for it. Cost of American Vessels \$100.00 per ton rigged. Cost of British Vessels from 40 to 60. Cost of running American Vessels per year from 3 to \$1000.00. Crew's time 12 Men each one year \$3600.00. Canadian Vessels are provisioned much cheaper than the Americans, their men living principally on fish and Potatoes ours on the best the Market affords

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? All of them.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? The mackerel is the only available Fish to be caught by American Vessels.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? The Fisherman do not catch any Bait themselves. They buy all from the Shore Fisherman.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. American Vessels engaged both in the Deep Sea & Shore Fisheries off the Dominion Coast expend \$1600.00 to \$1000.00 each for Supplies and Refitting amounting to about \$100,000.00 in trade. Many of the Inhabitants of the Shores of the Provinces literally depend upon the American Fisherman for their Living.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the pro-

portion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? About 400 Vessels were engaged in these Fisheries at the time of the Resiprocity. At present under the restricted Policy many more American Vessels pursue the Deep Sea Fisheries for Cod-fish & Halibut since the introduction of Ice for the preservation of Fish this business has been more profitable as the Fish are sold fresh. Vessels are worth from \$60.00 to \$70.00 per ton. The fish taken average about $2\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars. In the most favorable season about \$100 000 00 bbls are taken in the Bay of St Lawrence less than $\frac{1}{5}$ th of these are taken within 3 mile of the Shore. This is the entire and only fishery used by Americans.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? Any actual profit on the Fishing Business never had any existence our Vessels have caught more Mackerel when entirely excluded from the Inshore Limit,

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? No We always had the right although deprived of it, to land Fish or other merchandise in Bond to be transshipped to the U. S. In this as in all others Our Government have not protected us.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? Vastly more to the Provinces in every particular

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market? Most certainly Fat Mackerel shipped to warm Climates would have nothing left but the Bones before they were sold.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Refer to the Treasury Reports.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. The simple Privilege of fishing within the In-shore limits of the Dominion has under any Circumstances a very small value. The total misconception of the value and profits of the Fishing business held by Parties not practically interested has given an assumed value to the fish while in the Water, The investments in the Fishing business, including Ves-

sels, Wharves, Ware-houses, Provisions, Lines, Nets, Sails, Rigging, Boats, Salt, Barrels, and the time of the men engaged reckoned at the same rates of pay as that obtained by regular Seamen or practical operatives on the Land in any other business, has never yet or never will return more than 6 per ct upon the whole amount. After paying 4 per ct on the investment of Capital and for the time of the Men and the Wear & Tear and Depreciation of the Vessels, there will be no margin left, for the purchase of Fish in the Water. It should be remembered in dealing with this subject that we should confine the value of Fish or Mackerel in the hands of the Producer. That the values attached to Fish as appearing in Prices currant, are nearly double the value of the Fish in their raw state before landing. What is chiefly the desire of the American fisherman is to be protected from the continual annoyance. The danger of Capture upon the slightest reasons and the well-known hostility of the Dominion Government, from which they have never been afforded any protection, even from our own Government. The bounties paid by the U. S. have been more than sufficient to establish the entire Fishing interest. With these withdrawn and our Markets open to Canadian Fishermen free of duties who can produce the fish for less than $\frac{1}{2}$ the cost of American fisherman the Fisheries of the U. S. are in danger of entire destruction.

GEO NORWOOD

I hereby endorse the above statements.

JAMES S AYER

Firm of Dennis & Ayer engaged in Fishing business 35 years

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX } ss.

GLOUCESTER June 21st

Subscribed and sworn to. Before me
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

No. 26.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ———— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Andrew Leighton Aged 52 Gloucester Massachusetts.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have fished in Gulf of St. Lawrence during a period of twenty-eight years for Mackerel, also have been engaged in other kinds of fishing in the meantime. Since, for the last five years, have carried on business as owner and fitter.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please to give some such name. Most of the members of firms (in the Fishing Business) in Gloucester have been personally engaged in fishing in the Bay of St. Lawrence. I would mention the names of Capt Benjamin Bearse, Capt Robert Reeves.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States

known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined the same.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Codfish Halibut. Haddock. Polluck Hake—Menhaden. Mackerel, Swordfish &c.

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. Have never seen any estimates, the quantity is enormous, probably 300 000 Bbls Mackerel Mass & Maine Menhaden probably 200,000 Dollars Cod haddock pollock, 1,500,000 Dollars

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. see as above ———

Mackerel	\$1 000,000
Menhaden	\$2 000,000

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? The only fish taken inside the three mile limit on the Canadian coast, is Mackerel. The Herring taken at the Magdalenes are already free to us.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? They purchase bait in large quantities for Mackerel.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? This will be entirely owing to their enterprise

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? Probably not. Except their vessels. costing less. they could carry on the business profitably when we could not

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? None that I know of at present

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Fully nine tenths of the Fishing is done outside the three mile limit

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? The advantage to us of being able to fish inside the three mile

limit is, that we are able to follow the Mackerel wherever we can catch them, the proportion cannot be accurately determined because it varies with the season. Should not think more than one tenth of the Mackerel are caught inshore

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? This is true, yet late in the season they *sometimes* tend in shore, the great body of mackerel is usually found away from the shore.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? No they are not.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? This is certainly true, and it saves the Canadian boat fishermen a large sum as they have the benefit of the bait thrown which otherwise they would have to buy themselves

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Pohagan. Bait is best. Is taken on Coasts of Maine & Massachusetts. Most of it is taken within three miles of shore. Do not know the aggregate value, think about \$2 000,000

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. The average cost of running a fishing-vessel at Gloucester is from 3 to 4000 Dollars per year for Salt Barrels Bait Ice Provisions &c Crew of 12 men value of Time, \$3,600,00

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessels in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. The Canadian vessels are not so well built more soft wood is used. An American fishing vessel cost new all rigged ready for sea 100 Dollars per ton. Canadian not over 55 Dollars per ton. Canadians live cheaper on fish & potatoes. We cannot get crews to go in our vessels unless they have as good as the markets afford

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? Am acquainted as stated in article second with all the fisheries

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fisherman under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch

in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Our Cod & Halibut catchers bound on Voyages to the Grand & Western Banks, buy bait on N. Scotia & Cape Breton shore to a considerable Extent say 200 000 Dollars per year

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They purchase supplies in large quantities especially in Gut of Canso, Halifax, also, at Charlottetown & Georgetown, P. E. I. The Mackerel Fleet usually purchase supplies, for vessel & and crew amounting from \$300, to \$600, each vessel.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? About 400 vessels. averaging 60 Tons & 14 men Costing from \$100.00 to \$125.00 per Ton New Measure *Mackerelling* 200 Bank Fishing

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? When mackerel are found inshore it is generally at the mouths of rivers or creeks, and unless we can go there to catch them, the privilege is not worth much to us

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? They will have no more rights than they were really entitled to before.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? It seems to be the unanimous opinion of American Fishermen that the effect of the Treaty will be better for them than for us.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. It does.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

ANDREW LEIGHTON

WALTER M FALT

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

COUNTY OF ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER, June 21st 1873

Subscribed and sworn to,

Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 27.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO-
POUNDED TO ———— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED
STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? W C Wonson of Gloucester Essex Co Mass

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been practically engaged in the fishing business for fourteen years Am now conducting general fishing business fitting eight vessels

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel Menhaden Cod-fish Pollock Haddock Hake Herring

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this, please do so; and, if not, please state where that information can be procured. See reports of Ins General of the State Mass

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind.

Our Shore fisheries are worth some years more than the Canadians. Mackerel are an erratic fish, our shore Mackerel are worth 5 Dollars per Bbls. more than the Bay Mackerel, The Menhaden fishery entirely a shore fishery and are taken for oil Bait Guano &c is worth from 2 to \$4000,000 00 Mackerel Fishery about the same though liable to vary

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? See Canadian Statistics See U States Statistics

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State; and, if so, to what extent and value? Pogie Bait is obtained by them by purchase

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? They would save the value of bait, say \$75,000, but they do not do business as we do

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and, if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? Do not think it would affect us other than they will have cheap vessels, & there will be some competition

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Do not know not many

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Principally Deep Sea fishing until late in the fall not more than $\frac{1}{10}$ part would be taken in shore including all fisheries

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? Should not think that more than one sixth part are taken within three miles of the shore.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial inshore waters? No

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? There is. The more vessels the better

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Clams & Manhaden; Manhaden are found only on the American Shores,

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and man-

ning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Pogie Fishing requires a crew of from 10 to 15 men, at a cost of from 300 to 500 per month, Mackerel Fishing requires a crew from 12 to 20 men, Cost about the same. Cod Fishing requires a crew of about 13 men, Cost including salt fitting Insurance &c. about \$400 per month.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. I dont know the expense of fitting Canadian vessels but should think that they could be fitted and run at least one third cheaper than American vessels could.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? I am well acquainted with them.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel Halibut & Cod fish,

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. Dont know

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? They sometimes buy their Bait of the Canadians at a value of not less than \$200,000.00.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. Yes. Our vessels often refit in the ports of the Dominion at an expense of from \$100 to \$600.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three mile limit? About 600 or 700 vessels are annually engaged they average about 65 tons employing about 8000 men,

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles

of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? In case we are deprived of fishing at the mouth of the Rivers the Mackerel Fishery would be rendered almost valueless,

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to re-pack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? No the Canadians are more benefited than we are.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? It is more benefit to the Canadians than to the American Fishermen.

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States?

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. Yes. No fat mackerel are carried south of Hatteras, they are all consumed in the Northern Middle and Western States

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. The statistics will show think about from 200 to \$300,000.00 The importations would be doubled by free markets.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive.

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this which subject you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. The United States should have claimed at least a half million yearly as the fisheries that are to be affected depend solely on the U States markets for their value and we get no advantages except the release from annoyance. Our Mackerel fleet can take all the Mackerel that is wanted for home consumption off our own coasts, and we are simply building up a foreign fishery which is valueless without our markets for the privilege of using British harbors, and giving them our trade which is worth 10 times more to them than any fisheries are to us.

WM. C. WONSON

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX } ss

GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873

Then personally appeared the above named William C. Wonson and made oath that the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true

Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

No. 28.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Geo Friend & Co. Gloucester Mass.

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have caught them, cured them, & sold them, now prosecuting the fishing Business.

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Could give the names of 40 Fishing Firms, but you have probably sent them these questions,

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? We have.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? All Kinds that we have the right to take upon their shores, Mackerel & Menhaden in particular

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not please state where that information can be procured. Can get all the required information from the reports of the General Inspector, of our own and other fishing States.

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. Mackerel and Porgies are taken on our shores, the Porgie being entirely our own shore fishery, our shore Mackerel are worth, and will bring more right along, than the Bay Mackerel. they seem to be a better fish everyway, and if there is any advantage it is in favor of the Canadian fishermen almost in the proportion of 2 to 1.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? You had better consult the statistics of both countries, and you will learn the full quantity & value of the whole thing.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? Only by purchasing as we term them Slivers or Porgie Bait, slivered ready for use.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? same as their fisheries are to us.

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in-shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these

fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? We think it will injure our business a great deal, by their running cheaper vessels, & fitting cheaper can undersell us every time. It will result in great loss to the American fishermen.

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage, and value, and the number of men employed upon them? We don't think there are any.

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? 1% are caught off shore, and some vessels don't take a fish inshore of any kind.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel—Cod and Halibut.

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? The Mackerel which are taken inshore do not amount to but a very small part of the vessels trips, they are only taken late in the season and then about one half perhaps of our fleet are at home and do not return to the Bay. Take off the annoyance of being chased by cutters, and having to keep watch of an imaginary 3 mile line, and we don't think our fishermen would care one cent whether they caught a mackerel inside 3 miles. We don't consider they are worth one dollar.

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes. Thrivable.

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? Well we guess not much. Benefitted a great deal.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? The chances are twice as good.

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Clams and Porgies, or Menhaden. Porgies are caught only on our own shore.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Pogie fishing not over 12 men, principally 10. Costing about \$500, per month. Mackerelling, not over 20 men. will Average. 15 men. Cost trifle more. Cod—12 men. Cost about same as Pogie fishing.

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference be-

tween the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. We all know that Canadians can fit build and run their vessels cheaper than we can, but how much cheaper we are unable to say. We think we should place the matter about right to say $\frac{1}{3}$ cheaper than we can build, man and run our vessels. And we are confident we have placed the figure low.

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? Well acquainted with all of them,

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel—Cod & Halibut.

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. You must consult statistics again, for we cant give you the desired information.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Buy lots of Bait from them, and pay from 2 to 3 hundred thousand dollars.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. Our vessels often go in to their different Ports, refit, and buy everything for the voyage, and pay the Dominion merchants all the way from \$50 to \$800, Have paid this Amt ourselves, for one vessel.

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? 600,—50 tons—8,000, men. Statistics will give you the rest.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? None whatever are added to the profits.

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? Canadian fishermen reap Double the benefit that the American fishermen do.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? Answer same as Question 29

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Cant say.

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon. does not the United States afford the only market. Fat mackerel find a ready and about the only market in the U. S.

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Statistics will show you the whole thing, we should think \$250,000 was about right And importations would more than double up by free markets.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Dont know

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. Our impression in relation to fishing inside the three mile limit is simply this. It will be a detriment instead of a benefit. One reason why it will be so is that our vessels would be likely to lie in the harbors of Port Hood, and along their coast, when they ought to be out on the fishing ground. To take fish inside the three mile limit is of no value to the American fishermen. It is only when our fishermen are taking fish, say from 4 to 5 miles from the land, of being bored to death by cutters, sent out of their harbors when they seek them for shelter from the storms which frequent that coast, of not being permitted to buy Anything except wood and water, and hardly that that this whole trouble lies. Our fishermen only want protection in this matter, and the mackerel they would take inside the three mile line. we would stake our reputation, would not much more than pay for the Bait they used.

Attest to the foregoing.

GEO FRIEND & CO.

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

COUNTY OF ESSEX S. S.

GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873

Then personally appeared John J. Somes and for himself and the other members of the firm of Geo. Friend & Co. made oath that the foregoing statements subscribed in the firm's name are true Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 29.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ——— ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Frederic Gerring Gloucester Mass

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? I have been practically engaged in the fisheries 35 years & now conducting the general fishing business with 7 vessels

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. Alfred Low & Co, F. G. Wonson & S. G. Wonson 2d.

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have.

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel, Cod, Herring, Pogies,

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. I would refer you to the reports of the Inspector General of the State,

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind. not able to state

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? Bureau of Statistics Washington D. C.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? for all their Bait for the mackerel fisheries.

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? unable to State

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in shore fisheries cause any detriment or hindrance to the profitable pursuit of those fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? No, except more competition

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Should say about 15 vessels

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic

coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Should think about 80 per cent are deep sea fisheries.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in-shore fisheries? Mackerel late in the year

15. If you state that the in shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits, and what proportion is taken outside of the in-shore limits? *not one tenth* part of the mackerel taken at the Bay of St. Lawrence are taken within the inshore limits

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially, are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? YES

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? NO.

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing-vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? Yes

19. What is the best bait for the mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Pogie or Menhaden, an American fish, taken off Coast of U. S. Value of this fishery about \$1,000,000 yearly

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo and of returning to the home port. Pogie fishing, Crew 10 men cost of Salt Bbls, *provisions &c* \$400, *time 3 weeks mackerel fishing about the same* Cost of a voyage to Grand Banks of a Schooner of 80 tons about \$2700, for a term of 2 mos or 10 weeks

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. About one half what it costs to fit an American vessel

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? 20 years *all of them*

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Codfish—Halibut & Mackerel

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872 inclusive) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail. Cannot give the data required Should think that the Deep Sea fisheries three miles from Shore were worth \$2000,000 00 less cost of taking them

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada? If so, to what extent, and what is the value? Yes \$200,000 worth a year

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various article for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries? If so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money value of that advantage. Yes, 10 years ago about all of the American fleet refitted in the Straits of Canso, N. S. and their trade was a great assistance to the natives there, say \$500,000

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? 700 Vessels, total tonnage, 455,000 tons, costing about \$60 per ton about 10,000 men employed and the value of the products of the fisheries of this district for the year ending Dec. 31, 1872 was valued at \$3,437,000.—Gross.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? not much, not over 5 per cent

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? no, I consider we had these right always

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? Yes
SIR,

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? *No duty at hand*

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. No, mey of their fish are exported direct to foreign countries other than the U. S.,

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Cannot say

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Cannot Say

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in

respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it.

GLOUCESTER, MASS.

June 11, 1873,

FRED. GERRING

part owner of Six fishing Vessels, 20 years engaged in the fishing business,

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX } ss.

GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873 Then personally appeared the above named Frederic Gerring and made oath that the foregoing statements by him subscribed, are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 30.

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

QUESTIONS RESPECTING THE FISHERIES TO BE PRO- POUNDED TO ———, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. What is your name and age, and in what town and State do you reside? Frederick G. Wouson of Gloucester, Essex Co, Mass

2. What opportunities have you had for becoming acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic sea-fisheries, and the value of the catch of the different kinds of fish? Have been practically engaged, both as Fisherman, and owner for the past twenty two years, am now fitting fourteen vessels

3. Can you give the names of other persons in your neighborhood who have also had the opportunity of obtaining similar information? If so, please give some such name. F Gerring Walen & Co and others

4. A copy of the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Treaty of Washington, is hereto annexed. Will you examine articles 18 to 22 inclusive, and state that you have done so? I have examined articles 18 to 22

5. What kinds of fish frequent the waters of your State, especially those which are to be thrown open to the Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel, Herring Pogies, Codfish &c,

6. Can you give a statement of the kinds and quantities of fish taken annually off the coast of your State from the years 1854 to 1872, inclusive? If you can do this, please do so; and if not, please state where that information can be procured. see Report Inspector General of Fish State of Mass

7. If you are able to do so, will you state the amount and value of the American fisheries which are to be thrown open to Canadian fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Please state them in detail, showing the different kinds of fish, and the value of each kind.

Shore, Menhaden fishery
Shore, Mackerel fishery

\$2,000,000.00 }
\$1,500,000 } gross.

The Mackerel caught off the New England Coast have been worth from 3 to 5 dollars more per Barrel than the Bay of St Lawrence of the same quality.

8. What quantity and value of each kind of fish are annually taken by Canadian fishermen, and what by American fishermen, in the waters off the coasts which are to be thrown open to competition by the Treaty of Washington? The Canadians have not engaged in the American fisheries to any extent they have hardly had enterprise sufficient to take the fish in their own waters.

9. Do Canadian fishermen procure bait or supplies in the waters of your State? and if so, to what extent and value? Pogie Bait is obtained by them

10. What is the probable annual value to Canadian fishermen in being able to procure bait, to land and dry their nets, and to repack and cure their fish on the coasts of your State, without any other restriction than that contained in the Treaty of Washington? Their own enterprise will determine that

11. Will the admission of Canadian fishermen to our in shore fisheries cause any detriment or hinderance to the profitable pursuit of these fisheries by our own fishermen; and if so, in what manner, and to what extent annually? Do not think that it would affect us materially other than they will have cheap vessels & there will be more competition

12. What number of Canadian vessels and boats are engaged in the fisheries of your State, and what are their tonnage and value, and the number of men employed upon them? Do not know

13. Of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, what proportion consists of the deep-sea fisheries, and what proportion of the in-shore fisheries? Principally deep-sea fishing until late in the fall say $\frac{1}{2}$ is outside of 5 miles.

14. For what description of fish do American fishermen pursue the in shore fisheries? Mackerel

15. If you state that the in-shore fisheries are pursued wholly or chiefly for mackerel, please state what proportion of mackerel is taken within the in-shore limits and what proportion is taken outside of the in shore limits. Should not think that more than one fifth part are taken within three mile limit, or about from 12 to 20,000 Bbls

16. Is not much the larger quantity of mackerel caught by American fishermen off the coasts of British America taken outside the in-shore limits; and in the summer season especially are not mackerel generally found on the banks, in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and not within shore? Yes; on banks Bradly and Orphan, and around the Magdalen Islands

17. Are Colonial fishermen injured by permitting American fishermen to fish in Colonial in-shore waters? I do not think they are on the contrary, I believe they are benefitted

18. Are not more fish caught by Colonial fishermen, when fishing in-shore, alongside a fleet of American fishing vessels, from which large quantities of bait are thrown out, than when fishing alone? There is

19. What is the best bait for mackerel, and where is it principally taken? How much of it is taken within three miles of the shore, and what is the annual value to the United States, or to the British Provinces, as the case may be, to take such bait within three miles of the shore? Pogies—which are taken on the New England shores only—think the value of the Pogie fishery cannot be less than two millions of dollars.

20. Please state as to each class of fisheries carried on from your State or district, the cost of fitting out, equipping, furnishing, and manning a vessel for carrying it on, estimating it by the average length of the cruise. State, as far as possible, in detail the elements which go to make up the cost of taking and delivering a full cargo, and of returning to the home port. Generally the crews of the Pogie catchers consist of about 10 men each—time about 3 weeks per trip—cost \$400—Bank fishing \$400 per month—this includes barrels, salt, cost of filling, Insurance, &c, Mackerel fishing

21. When you have fully answered question 20, please answer the same questions as to vessels fitted out, equipped, furnished, and manned from the Dominion of Canada, including Prince Edward Island, so far as you are able to do so. If you state that there is any difference between the cost of the Canadian and the cost of the American vessel in these respects, explain what the difference is and the reason for it. Should think that the Canadians Could prosecute the fisheries at one-half the expense we could—owing to their much cheaper vessels—cheaper men and cheaper grub,

22. Are you acquainted, and for how long, and in what capacity, with the fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, or Prince Edward Island, or with either, and if either, with which of these fisheries? Am acquainted with all kinds.

23. What kind of fish frequent the waters of those coasts which are to be thrown open to American fishermen under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington? Mackerel principally

24. Please state in detail the amount and the annual value (say from 1854 to 1872, inclusive,) of the fisheries which are so to be thrown open to American fishermen; also the amount and the annual value of the catch in the adjacent waters which are more than three miles distant from the shore; please state these facts in detail.

25. Do American fishermen procure bait in the waters within three miles of the coast of the Dominion of Canada; if so, to what extent, and what is the value? American fishermen buy bait of Canadians to a large extent, the value of which must be considerable, say \$200,000.

26. Do not the American fishermen purchase supplies in the ports of the Dominion of Canada, including bait, ice, salt, barrels, provisions, and various articles for the use of the men engaged in the fisheries; if so, in what ports, and to what extent? And, if that is the case, is it not an advantage to the ports of the Dominion to have the fishing-vessels of the United States in their neighborhood during the fishing season? Explain why it is so, and estimate, if you can, the money-value of that advantage. They do purchase supplies to a great extent—should think the fleet would average each \$500, at Charlottetown, P. E. I., Canso Strait, and others, and is of immense value to these places. During reciprocity nearly all the American fleets refitted at those ports, in some cases amounting to \$1000 or \$1500, each vessel

27. Have you any knowledge of how many United States fishing-vessels yearly engage in the fisheries off the Atlantic coasts of the British North American Provinces, (excluding Newfoundland,) both without and within the three-mile limit? If so, state how many vessels are so engaged, what is the value of their tonnage, what is the number of men employed annually on such vessels, what sorts of fish are taken there, what is the annual value of all the fish so caught, and what is the proportion, or probable proportion, in your judgment, of the amount of such catch taken within three miles of the British coast, and of the amount taken outside of the three-mile limit? Should think about 700

vessels are engaged with a total tonnage 420,000 tons—about 60 tons each worth about \$60, per ton—\$2,520,000.

28. What percentage of value, if any, is, in your judgment, added to the profits of a voyage by the privilege to fish within three marine miles of the coast; whence is such profit derived; and in what does it consist? Do not think the privilege to fish within 3 miles is of any value. Official annoyance is what we complain of

29. Do the American fishermen gain under the Treaty of Washington any valuable rights of landing to dry nets and cure fish, or to repack them, or to transship cargoes, which were not theirs before; if so, what are those rights, and what do you estimate them to be worth annually, in the aggregate? I think we do not gain any rights of any value and the Canadians will be greatly benefitted by the treaty.

30. Is not the Treaty of Washington, so far as the fishing clauses are concerned, more, or quite as, beneficial to the people of the British North American Provinces as to the people of the United States? The Canadians will have the most benefit

31. What is the amount and value of colonial cargoes of fish of all descriptions which are annually shipped to the United States? Do not know

32. For all No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel, for the larger part of the fat herring, and for all No. 1 salmon, does not the United States afford the only market. It does

33. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid to the United States on fish and fish-oil imported from Canada, which are to be made free under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. Cannot.

34. If you know what amount of duties is annually paid in Canada on fish and fish-oil imported from the United States, which are to be made free under the provisions of the said Treaty, please state them annually, and by classes, from 1854 to 1872, inclusive. See U States Statistics

35. The object of these inquiries is to ascertain whether the rights in respect of fishing, and fishermen, and fish, which were granted to Great Britain by the Treaty of Washington, are or are not a just equivalent for the rights in those respects which were granted by said Treaty to the United States. If you know anything bearing upon this subject which you have not already stated in reply to previous questions, please state it as fully as if you had been specially inquired of in respect of it. The markets of the United States are the foundation of all the profits of the Mackerel fisheries to the Canadians Without them this fishery is value less: The Fish caught by our vessels on the Ocean Banks are generally very large, These fish are larger than the shore fish caught on the Canadian coast which are smaller and better fitted for the West Indies and Mediteranean trade, The Georges Codfish always bring a larger price than any other consequently the shore fisheries for Cod fish are of little value If we are to be excluded from the mouths of Rivers in taking Mackerel the Mackerel fishery also will not amount to any thing

FREDERIC G. WONSON, of JOHN F. WONSON & Co

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS } ss
COUNTY OF ESSEX }

GLOUCESTER June 21st 1873.

Subscribed and sworn to, by above named Frederic G. Wonson
Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

I Charles H. Pew of Gloucester in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn doth depose and say;

I am forty years old and have been engaged in the fishing business ever since I entered my fathers store as a boy of fourteen years old. Our firm is John Pew & Sons, my brother and myself are the sons—We own twenty (20) fishing vessels and have averaged as many as that number, their tonnage varies from forty (40) to one hundred (100) tons each, they are exclusively engaged in the cod and mackerel fisheries. Last year we had two vessels only engaged in the mackerel fishery in the Canadian Waters and that not in fishing inshore.

Since the fishery clauses of the Treaty of Washington took effect viz 1872, we have had four years experience of the operation of the free fishing clauses. During those years we have caught mackerel to the value of \$167,000₁₀₀ as shown by our sales in the United States waters and \$39,600₁₀₀ worth in British waters; of which \$39,600₁₀₀ worth I think hardly any were taken within three miles of the shore. Our vessels having chiefly fished at the Magdalen Islands. During the same four years our catch of codfish &c has been \$475,000₁₀₀ no part of which was caught within three miles of the British shore but all in the deep seas and on the coast of the United States. Seven eighths of the entire codfish catch has been off the coasts of the United States. Since 1872 the percentage of our catch of mackerel taken off the British coast has decreased being in 1875 only \$7,800 out of \$156,014, total fish production. The shore fisheries of the United States are far more valuable than those off the British coasts. The value of the fisheries on the British coast has been steadily diminishing. The quality of the mackerel taken off the British coast has been growing poorer and that off the United States coast has grown better for some years past.

The amount of bait bought by the vessels of our firm of the inhabitants of the British Provinces was in 1874 about \$500 worth in 1875 about \$800 worth, this bait was fresh herring for our vessels bound to the banks of Newfoundland to fish for cod. We have never caught any bait in British waters. Few if any United States vessels catch any bait in their waters. All our mackerel bait consists of salted pogies taken off the U. S. coast; this fish is not found in the British waters: they are a warm water shore fish and are rarely found beyond Mt. Desert which is considered their eastern and northern limit. The pogies are to some extent bought by the Colonists as bait for mackerel, their only other bait for mackerel is herring which is much inferior. The right to land and dry nets or cure fish on shore is of no value to anybody, this practice has become wholly obsolete, the whole mode of fishing to which this relates ceased more than a generation ago. All fish both cod and mackerel are brought home to cure the fishing vessels do not even cure their own catch, but sell them green to be cured by fish dealers and packers. The entire fishing fleet of Gloucester in August 1875 was in all 392 vessels, the number has been about the same for ten (10) years past though the average tonnage has increased. In 1875 during the summer not over 35 vessels entered the Bay of St Lawrence or any other British waters for Mackerel, the rest fished off the coasts of the United States alone; except about 100 on the banks of Newfoundland. As I have already stated the percentage caught in British waters has regularly decreased for five years past.

The United States fishermen import nothing into the British Provinces, the provincial fishermen import into the United States all their

fat mackerel and nearly all their poor mackerel. Fat mackerel spoil when carried into southern latitudes and there is no market for them except in the United States and there not south of Chesapeake Bay. The United States also furnished the chief market for the large codfish, which sell here to better advantage than anywhere else, the small codfish caught by the provincial fishermen go to the West Indies, Spain and Great Britain.

Nearly all the smoked herring from the provinces come into the United States. The alewife fishery, salmon fresh and salt; large amounts of fish oils nearly all that is produced in the provinces come into the United States. The effect of free importations since the Treaty of Washington has been very injurious to the fishing interests of the U. S. the competition caused by it has nearly ruined the profits of the business.

And inasmuch as the cost of building and equipping a vessel in the provinces is much less than in the United States, from a third to a quarter less—if there were as many fishermen in the provinces as in the United States and they had equal capital, skill and energy the principal fishing business would be transferred to the provinces.

My business experience is that the effect of the present treaty is and that of the former Reciprocity Treaty during its continuance, was, that the free importation of fish from the British provinces is a great injury to the United States fishermen and far outweighs any benefit they may derive from fishing inshore.

As to the effect upon the prices of fish to the consumer of free importations under the treaty, there has not yet been any perceptible reduction of prices in the retail business although four years out of the ten named in the treaty have already elapsed. In fact, the profits of the fishing business are so small that it is no exaggeration to say that a fish in the sea has no money value and that the cost of catching is so great that the return upon capital invested in the fisheries is small and does not average as well as the returns from capital in other branches of business, the profit is all made on shore by the curers and dealers who buy from the fishermen.

CHARLES H. PEW

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER Dec 1875

Then personally appeared the abovenamed Charles H. Pew to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief—before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

I, Alfred Mansfield of Gloucester of the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn do depose and say—that I have been engaged in the fishing business for the last 24 years. I am a member of the firm of James Mansfield & Sons—I have had in the course of the two preceding fishing seasons frequent opportunities for conversation with intelligent and well informed Nova Scotia captains and fishermen residing in the southern portion of Nova Scotia—that the people of that region are now more extensively than ever turning their attention to the catching of codfish both in their own immediate waters and on the more distant fishing banks—Attention is being attracted to these fisheries on the part of capitalists who previously have found in

other branches of marine business full employment for their money and have been unwilling to engage in a business paying so poor returns as the fisheries—

The Nova Scotians who have at their own doors what might be an immense source of wealth have been lacking an available out-let for the surplus product of their fisheries beyond that which their own markets supply, but under the existing state of affairs between the United States and Great Britain this want is fully met—Since the autumn of 1873 the Grand Banks Codfishery has been as a whole unproductive and such stocks of fish as the American vessels have produced have been disposed of without difficulty, but in the event of a large catch which would fill all the markets of our own to overflowing the presence of a large amount of English fish thrown into the market on equal footing with our own and at greatly reduced cost of production from our own, thereby enabling them to be sold at a profit to their owners when American fish would have to be sacrificed, would be a blow of great severity to the entire New England Codfishery—

At the present time there are in our market a greater number than usual of English parties in pursuit of a cheap class of fishing schooners, and I have known within the past year of several instances in which vessels have been sold to parties from the Provinces to be employed in the codfishing business—I consider that by means of the new treaty between the United States and Great Britain the fishing interests of the British Provinces have received a most favorable and important impulse.

ALFRED MANSFIELD

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER Dec 29th 1875

Then personally appeared the above named Alfred Mansfield to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true so far as they depend upon his own knowledge and as far as they depend upon information and belief he believes them to be true—

—before me—

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 33.

I George Steele of Gloucester in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn doth depose and say I am and for the last 27 years have been engaged in the fishing business, owning and fitting out vessels for the cod and mackerel fisheries on the North American coast. My vessels have been both on the coasts of the British provinces and of the United States. I had last year in all eleven vessels.

The codfishery is wholly a deep sea fishery no cod are caught within three miles of the shore. The free fishery clauses of the treaty are therefore of no value to the United States fishermen engaged in this catch. Nor do the cod fishermen catch their own bait, they carry as bait from home salt and fresh herring; they also to some extent buy fresh bait in the provinces herring or squid.

The effect on the codfish business of allowing free importations into the United States has been and must continue to be very beneficial to the provinces, for they find in the United States their chief market for

large codfish—their small codfish go to the West Indies and is consumed at home.

The effect on the codfisheries of the United States is to bring them into severe competition with the Canadians who by reason of the greater cheapness of building and equipping vessels in which they have an advantage over us of from 25 to 50 percent could if they had equal capital and enterprise monopolise the business to the exclusion of our own fishermen.

The mackerel are the only fish caught at all in shore, the relative importance of mackerel in the trade of the country has for some years been steadily diminishing, they are much less used than formerly. In the Western States whitefish from the lakes are taking their place largely.

The quality of Mackerel caught off the coasts of the British provinces is also much poorer than formerly and the quantity taken much less. Not one tenth of the mackerel caught in British waters are taken within three miles of the shore.

And for the last three or four years the seine fishery for mackerel off the United States coasts has been very successful. In 1875 the catch of the British coast was very small.

I have no doubt the free importation of mackerel into the United States is a benefit to the provinces which far more than compensates for all the United States can gain by fishing inshore. The United States is the only market for fat mackerel and almost the only one for the poorer grades.

I should rather be subject to the restrictions formerly imposed and not be allowed to fish within three miles of the coast, if duties could be again imposed on fish from the provinces.

GEORGE STEELE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER Dec 29th 1875

Then personally appeared the abovenamed George Steele to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true so far as they depend upon his own knowledge and as far as they depend upon information and belief he believes them to be true.

—before me—

DAVID W. LOW

(Seal.)

Notary Public

No. 34.

I Sylvanus Smith of Gloucester in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn depose and say that I am forty seven years old and am a member of the firm of Smith and Gott, our firm owns seventeen (17) vessels. I have been engaged in the fishing business twenty eight years, seventeen years as master of a vessel and eleven years on shore fitting out vessels for the cod and mackerel fisheries—Last year only two out of our whole fleet were engaged in fishing off the Canadian coast—No portion of all the catch last year was taken inshore—In 1874 we had five vessels in Canadian Waters and I should think about one eighth part of the fish caught were taken within three miles of the shore—In 1873 we had six vessels in Canadian Waters and very few fish were taken inshore—For the last eight years the mackerel fishing off the coast of Canada has steadily decreased and become less profitable and fewer and fewer vessels are sent there each year—Most of the mackerel caught are taken on the United States coast by means

of seines—fishing for mackerel with seines cannot be profitably carried on in Canadian Waters on account of the roughness of the bottom and shoalness of the water, for this reason American fishermen have almost entirely ceased to use the Canadian mackerel fishery—All the bait used in mackerel fishing consists of menhaden or porgie which is only found off the coast of the United States, and which the Canadians bought from the American fishermen to a great extent—Now by the Treaty they have equal facilities with us for procuring it—We buy from the Canadians herring and small mackerel to use on the Banks for cod-bait; Our firm has paid as much as \$2000.00 the past season for this alone—We often repair and refit our vessels in the Provinces purchasing supplies &c and have paid as much as \$500¹⁰⁰ for one ship there—

I consider the right to land and dry nets cure fish &c on the Canadian shores as of no value—I have never had any of my vessels land for this purpose nor have I ever known of any other vessels doing so—During the past season very few vessels from this town not more than forty out of three hundred and fifty fished in the Gulf of St Lawrence and these only for two or three months—

No fish are ever exported from the United States to the provinces while all their large cod and the best quality of their mackerel are sent here; the only fish for which there is a market in the provinces are the small cod and poorer grades of mackerel—

I think that the fishermen of the United States will be injured by the Treaty of Washington—The Canadians can build ships cheaper than the Americans and by the free clause of the Treaty they can carry and in some cases have carried their fish directly to the American ports and sold them there—Under the old Reciprocity Treaty the Canadian fishing fleet increased largely but as soon as the repeal of the treaty prevented their taking their fish into the United States free of duty, it became so unprofitable that it was to a great extent given up and vessels which they had begun building for the fishing business were left unfinished on the stocks—Since the present Treaty has taken effect, the business has increased very largely in the Provinces—

I consider the inshore fisheries of little value, we send few vessels and they take few fish—All the value of the treaty to our fishermen is the right to trade, buy bait &c unmolested and if we could be protected in this, we should much prefer and desire the old tariff—this right to trade we have always claimed but it has been denied to us and we have been harassed in every way—

SYLVANUS SMITH

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER Dec 28th 1875

Then personally appeared the above named Sylvanus Smith to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true so far as they depend upon his own knowledge and as far as they depend upon information and belief he believes them to be true—before me—

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 35.

I, Morris Whelen of Gloucester in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn do depose and say, that I have been twenty-two years engaged in fishing for mackerel. I have

been master of a vessel for the last fifteen years. Most of the time I have fished in the Gulf of St Lawrence, I have in all this time caught very few fish within three miles of the shore—The fish in this Gulf are growing poorer each year, last season they were very scarce around Prince Edwards Island—I have never caught any bait in Canadian waters, but have always carried pergies from Gloucester to use for this purpose—I have never bought any supplies from the Canadians. The only thing that I have ever procured from the shore has been water.

For the last few years many more fish have been taken off the American shores than in Canadian waters. I should think the proportion was ten to one I have generally fished off the Magdalen Island

MAURIS WHELEN

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER Dec 29th 1875

Then personally appeared the above named Morris Whelan to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief

before me

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

[Seal.]

No. 36.

I Thomas Grady of Gloucester in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn do depose and say that I have been engaged in the Cod and Mackerel fishery since 1851 have been Master of a fishing vessel seventeen years—In 1872 fished off the coast of the United States for mackerel in 1873 and 1874 fished in Bay of St Lawrence; in 1875 on the "Georges" Banks, Mackerel on the Canadian coast are much poorer and fewer than formerly and in consequence fewer vessels from this port go there—The only bait for the mackerel is the pogie, which is only found in the United States and which the Canadians buy from us. I have in 1869 bought codfish bait from the Canadians for use on the Grand Banks—I do not think that our fishing inshore would be any detriment to Canadian fishermen—I consider the Treaty of Washington of much more benefit to the Canadians than to the fishermen of the United States.

THOMAS GRADY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER Dec 28th 1875

Then personally appeared the above named Thomas Grady to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief—

Before me

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

(Seal.)

No. 37.

I, James G. Tarr of Gloucester in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn do depose and say I am forty five years old and have been engaged in the fishery business for the past fifteen years—I am a member of the firm of J. G. Tarr and Brother, we are the owners of fourteen vessels from fifty to eighty tons burden all of which are engaged in the cod and mackerel fisheries—During

the past season only one out of all our vessels has been engaged in fishing off the coast of Canada—In 1866 we sent seven vessels out of a fleet of Eight sail to British waters; In 1867 the same number were sent there; In 1868 four vessels—In 1869 three vessels In 1870 four vessels, 1871 three vessels, 1872 only two vessels with an increase of fleet to ten sail—1873 four vessels, 1874 with an increase of fleet to twelve sail we sent only four vessels.

Since the Treaty we have used the inshore fisheries very little and our principal catch has been at the Magdalen Islands and on the Banks—For the last two years nearly all our vessels going to the Banks of Newfoundland for cod fish have touched at Colonial Ports and purchased herring bait there for use on the Banks, they also carry some salted bait from home for the codfishery—There is no inshore fishing for bait on the British Coast by United States vessels—I should consider seven eighths of all fisheries pursued by Americans on the Canadian shores consists of deep sea fishing, while only the remaining eighth inshore where only mackerel are caught.

I can conceive of no injury to Canadian fishermen that can be caused by our fishing in their waters side by side with them, but I should think that it would be a great benefit to them on account of the large amount of bait thrown overboard by American fishermen which attracts the fish—The only bait used for mackerel is the porgie or menhaden which is found entirely in the United States and which all the Canadians have to buy from the Americans in a salted state, this fish (the porgie) is not found in Canadian Waters and is almost the only bait used in the mackerel fishery; if the Canadians were unable to procure this bait, they would be compelled to use herring bait which is much inferior for the purpose—The bait which we buy from them for the codfishery consists of herring and some small mackerel—

For the last ten years our firm has averaged to pay the Canadians from \$800—to \$1000 $\frac{x}{100}$ a year for this bait—We are also in the habit of purchasing in the Provinces any supplies, ice &c of which our vessels may be in need our supplies thus purchased amount to about \$500—a year on the average—In reference to the purchase of bait from the Americans by Canadian fishermen, I have known vessels to sail from this port with as many as three hundred barrels of porgie bait on board which was sold in Halifax and the Straits of Canso to Canadian fishermen.

I think the right of fishermen of either nation under the treaty to land dry nets &c on the shores of the other, amounts to nothing on either side, All fishing vessels are now in the habit of curing all their fish at the home ports—

During the period of the former Reciprocity Treaty and since the Treaty of Washington, the importations of fish into the United States from the Provinces have been very large and have materially interfered with the profits of our fishermen, this is especially the case with the mackerel almost all of which, that are caught by the Canadians are sent into the United States for sale—Also all their large codfish are sold in the United States as they have a market for the small cod only at home—All their fat herring and No. 1 salmon are sold in the United States—

I consider the Treaty of Washington of much more value to the Provinces than to the United States—I should prefer the old duty on fish and would be willing to give up all our rights of inshore fisheries under the Treaty, if the tariff could be renewed—This conclusion is the result of four years—experience under the Treaty of Washington and also un-

der the whole of the former Reciprocity Treaty As all vessels can be built, equipped and manned in the colonies for a third less than in the United States—consequently if there were as many colonial fishermen as American and they had equal skill and industry they could entirely drive the American fishermen out of the business—

JAMES G. TARR

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER Dec 22d 1875

Then personally appeared the abovenamed James G. Tarr to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true as far as they depend upon his own knowledge and as far as they depend upon information and belief he believes to be true before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 38.

I John E. Gorman of Gloucester in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn do depose and say, that I am twenty six years old and have been engaged in the fishery business for the last thirteen years during the last five years I have been master of a vessel—I have been engaged in fishing for mackerel in the Bay of St Lawrence every year but two, and since the Treaty has come into effect have been in the Bay each year—In 1874 during the month of July I fished in shore to some extent may have taken from 150 to 200 barrels out of 700 my whole catch for that trip. In 1875 fished near the Magdalen Islands and caught very few inshore—Out of my last three trips in which my whole catch was 1900 barrels I caught not more than 200 barrels inshore—Most of the fish taken inshore are caught by the Canadians from small boats going out from the shore and returning each day with their fish. They can use with profit this fishery where in many cases our large fishing vessels could not go. This inshore fishery is of comparatively little value to us, We would be much better off without this right and with the old duty of \$2 per barrel on fish imported from Canada—The Bay fishery has been steadily decreasing from year to year, last year of all the vessels from Gloucester engaged in the Mackerel fishery nearly four hundred in all only about 50 sail were in the Bay at any time. This is caused by the increase in value of the seine fishery on the coast of the United States, in which most of the other vessels were engaged. This seine fishery is much more valuable and profitable than the fishing in the Bay with lines, the vessels make shorter trips. The seine fishery has been tried to some extent in the Bay but was not profitable, the bottom is too rough and the water too shoal—

The fish in the Bay have diminished in number and deteriorated in quality very much within the last ten years. for instance last year the vessels did not average more than 120 barrels each, while the best catch was only 380 barrels, in 1874 my vessel caught 700 barrels and the whole fleet averaged, as much as 300 barrels—

Clams and pogies are the principal bait for mackerel, pogies are only taken on the coast of the United States and the Canadians buy it from us to a great extent, I have sold them myself as much as ten barrels each year—The right to land &c as granted by the Treaty used to be of some value in the old times when the Reciprocity Treaty was in

force, it was the custom then to tranship the fish and send them back by freighters, but this is not done now each vessel carries back its own catch to Gloucester—American vessels purchase supplies from the Canadians to a great extent, furnishing supplies and shipping on board our vessels as hands for a fishing trip are the principal occupations of the people at Canso. Last year I spent \$50.00 for supplies there, and have probably averaged that amount each year—Canadians can prosecute the fisheries in their waters with much less expense than we can, they can build their vessels one-third cheaper, their crews go for less, in all Canadian vessels the skippers per centage is assessed among the crew, while here it is paid by the owners—Now that the American market is thrown open to them, they can undersell our fishermen and reduce their profits. Under the old tariff before the Treaty, their share of the trips has been much less valuable—

JOHN. E. GORMAN

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER Feb'y 2d 1876

Then personally appeared the above named John Gorman to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true upon his own knowledge and belief—

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 39.

I Nicholas Warren of Gloucester in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn depose and say that I have been engaged in the cod and mackerel fisheries for the last seventeen years have been in the Bay the last six years—I have fished very little inshore as I could not do so well there as further out—In our fishing vessels we cannot follow the mackerel so well as the Canadians who in their small boats come out from the shore—Last summer there were very few fish in the Bay, this has been so for the last few years and the vessels engaged in fishing off the American coast have made much better fares than those which went to the Bay—Last season there were not more than forty Gloucester vessels in the Bay out of a fleet of four hundred, while ten years ago there would be as many as three hundred from Gloucester alone in the Bay at one time, This was before the seine fishery on our own coast became so valuable—I have known of seine fishing being tried in Canadian waters, but it has been unsuccessful the water was shallow and the rough bottom tore their nets—I have never sold any bait to the Canadians but have known of its being done to a great extent, the bait used by us for mackerel is the menhaden which is not found in Canadian waters and they have to use herring which is poor and not nearly so good for the purpose—I have never repacked and shipped any fish home by steamer and I do not consider the clause in the treaty permitting this of any value, ten years ago it used to be done but not now Our trade is a great advantage to the Canadians as we purchase supplies wood &c in great quantities, I have paid as much at \$100.00 each year—

The free clause in the Treaty is of great benefit to the Canadians and has lowered our prices and diminished our profits—Canadian vessels have come to this town and sold their fish green here as they had no market for them at home and the received much higher prices here—

The Canadians can build their vessels much cheaper than we can and also they pay their crew much less a man can be hired in the Provinces

for from \$50 to \$75 a trip, while we pay from \$100 to \$200 per man, thus they can under sell and make a profit where we could not live —

NICHOLAS WARREN

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER July 26th 1876

Then personally appeared the abovenamed Nicholas Warren to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements subscribed by him are true as far they depend upon his own knowledge and as far as they depend upon information and belief he believes them to be true—

Before me—

(Seal)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public.

No. 40.

I Henry Hardy of Gloucester in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn do depose and say that I have been engaged in the fishery business for twenty one years, for last seventeen years master of a vessel—Since 1872 have been in the Bay each year, very few fish were caught inshore not one eighth portion of the whole catch. This was in 1873 & 1874 last year did not fish inshore as I did better outside—My principal catch has always been about the Magdalen Islands—Last year there were about 125 vessels in the Bay of which perhaps 40 were from Gloucester. All most all the inshore bay fishery is carried on by the Canadians in small boats from the shore, so that they can use this fishery with profit where we could not, as they can follow the fish closer to the shore—Fewer and fewer vessels go to the Bay each season as they can make more profit seine fishing on the American coast I have tried to use a seine for mackerel in the Bay but I had no luck, the fish would not school there as the do in our waters and the water in many places is too shoal to permit of its being used to any advantage—I think the free importation clause in the Treaty of great advantage to the Canadians, as they can carry on the business so much cheaper than we can, There is a rebate of duty on all articles bought by fishermen for their business and they can build boats and hire men much cheaper—Many men have gone from here to the Provinces, where they can buy a boat for \$50 and by going out from the shore catch there fish and carry them back at night, making more money than by going on fishing trips. Large Canadian fishing vessels have come to Gloucester and sold their fish there green—Canadians use as bait herring which they catch in their own waters but this is a poor bait—and when they can they procure menhaden bait from us—American vessels spend a great deal of money for supplies &c in Canada. I in one summer paid out \$2000.00 for refitting. The merchants at Canso complain and say that they have lost a great deal of money by the diminution of business caused by our vessels not coming to the bay as they used to—The only benefit under the treaty we receive is the right to enter harbors &c without molestation, we were troubled in every way and driven away from the harbors on the ground that we were "preparing to fish." I have been chased several times by cutters when I was more than seven miles away from the land and once in "Pirates Harbor" Canso I was seized as a prize and my sails stripped off because I could not get away within the given time allowed me—All we want from the Canadians are the rights in their harbors which are allowed to all other vessels except American fishing-vessels—

HENRY HARDY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX ss

GLOUCESTER Jan 25th 1876

Then personally appeared the abovenamed Henry Hardy and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true as far as they depend upon his own knowledge and as far as they depend upon information and belief he believes them to be true—

—before me—

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

No. 41.

I John E Saunders of Gloucester in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn do depose and say that I am forty seven years old and have been engaged in fishing since I was a boy for the last twenty five years I have been captain of a vessel I Have been in the Bay of St Lawrence every year from July to November. Since 1872 I have used the inshore fisheries very little, in all have not taken more than five barrels inshore—I can always do much better off shore—Last year there were very few Gloucester vessels in the Bay not more than forty, most of the others were engaged in seine fishing off our own coast which is very valuable and productive—The Bay catch has not been near so heavy for the last five years as before and for this reason we send fewer vessels each year to the Bay. The seine fishery has been tried in the Bay but has been unsuccessful the water is shallow and the mackerel do not school as they do off our coast—Canadians import menhaden bait from the United States to some extent, the menhaden is not found north of Cape Sable, fresh herring is used by Canadians somewhat but it is an inferior sort of bait and they much prefer menhaden when they can get it. I never have used the right under the treaty to land and repack fish &c I do not consider it of any value—I have purchased supplies and refitted in Canadian ports, several times spent \$250—in one season and once paid \$700—for refitting my vessel Americans are charged very high prices for every thing purchased—They can build their vessels much cheaper and by paying their crews much less they can carry on the business at much less cost and as by the treaty they can send their fish here free, they are enabled to make a profit where our fishermen could not live—

I consider the treaty of much benefit to the Canadians and of little value to us; The only use to us, is that we are allowed to buy provisions &c without hinderance, this right was always ours, but we were prevented and driven away on the ground that it was preparing to fish—

JOHN E. SAUNDERS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX ss

GLOUCESTER Jan 26th 1876

Then personally appeared the abovenamed John Saunders to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements subscribed by him are true as far as they depend upon his own knowledge and as far as they depend upon information and belief he believes them to be true—

before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

No. 42.

I Richard Hannan of Gloucester in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn do depose and say that I am forty three years old, have been on fishing trips ever since I was a boy, for the last eighteen years master of a vessel. Most every year from July to November have been mackerel fishing sometimes all the year—For the last ten years have fished principally around the Magdalen Islands I have fished in the Bay both within and without three mile limit but have caught most fish offshore—Since 1872 I have used the inshore fisheries to some extent. The catch inshore seemed much poorer than when I fished before inshore during the Reciprocity Treaty—The Bay fishery has been very poor for last five years, the fish are few and poor, the price of Bay mackerel has been about \$5 less than the American mackerel—only few Gloucester vessels from forty to fifty were in the Bay last year, ten years ago all the vessels fished there but by reason of the fewness of the fish they have left it and now fish on the American shores with a seine—I have seen vessels in the Bay fishing with seines but they had no luck and tore or lost their seines—I have sold menhaden bait to the Canadians a few barrels each year, they import a great deal of this bait from the United States—now by the Treaty they can come here and catch this bait themselves, to my own knowledge there have been two or three vessels here from Yarmouth or Argyle which came to catch pogies for use in the Bay—I have bought cod bait, salt lines &c from the Canadians have paid \$125—gold for codbait and as much as \$500 for refitting my vessel in one summer—I have under the clause of the treaty, landed mackerel transhipped it and sent them home by steamer, but there is not any gain or benefit procured by doing so, the expense is much greater than if I had taken the fish home in my own vessel I consider the right of the Canadians to send their fish in free of duty and sell them in the United States worth a great deal more to them, than anything we shall gain by the treaty I have known Canadian vessels to land their small fish at home where there is a market for them, and then taking the larger ones to the United States and selling them there to more advantage—Canadians can use the inshore fishery to much more advantage than we can, they go out in small boats from the shore and can fish near shore where our vessel cannot go—Prices of mackerel have been much lower during the past year than before and all our fishermen have lost money—The only benefit of the treaty to us is the use of the harbors without molestation and being permitted to buy provisions &c the inshore fisheries we cannot use to any profit—

The right to send in fish free of duty is of much more value to the Canadians than any rights we have received or will receive under the treaty; this is my experience of four years under this and six under the old Treaty—

RICHARD HANNAN

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

ESSEX SS—

GLOUCESTER, Jan 28th 1876

Then personally appeared before me the abovenamed Richard Hannan to me known and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true as far as they depend upon his own knowledge and as far as they depend upon information and belief he believes them to be true—before me—

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Pu'lic

No. 43.

This is to certify, That the undersigned Stephen B. Morey have been engaged in the fishing business, for the past thirty years, at Deer Isle, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows: Namely since 1871

No. of Vessels employed five (5) 11 men to each Vessel

No. of Trips made six trips yearly each year

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	00	2	00	00	00

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	00	420	00	00	00

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands

None caught on Bradly Orphan & Magdalenes

Average value of Vessels each\$3500

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.\$2400

Average value of Insurance8 per cent on vessel & outfits yearly

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....\$34

Average value of Commissions, &c.220\$ to each Captain yearly

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore....2300\$

Number of Vessels lost

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits

Value of Fish lost

Number of lives lost

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt. 85 cts

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.\$2.20

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores. nothing

Total value of Mackerel donothing

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel..	No 1	No 2	No 3
	\$17	\$13	\$7.50

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	\$11.50	\$8	\$5.50
---	---------	-----	--------

Average earnings of the operative fisherman per year\$2.20

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies \$1200\$

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring\$400

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Western Lahave Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Maekerel

Cape Henry to Anticosta

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking

Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Early in going fishing I used the waters of the Bay of St Lawrence—Later in life in the same waters I used to go mackereling and made some fair Trips with the Jig. Since 1867 I have abandoned the fisheries of the Bay of St Lawrence only Sending there in 1873 and my vessels have been engaged in Fishing with trawls—and Seining mackerel on our Shore. So far as American fishermen are concerned our vessels have given up the Bay of St Lawrence—and regard it as an entire failure

S. B. MOREY

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this eighth day of June 1877

THOMAS WARREN

Justice of the Peace

STATE OF MAINE

COUNTY OF HANCOCK

STATE OF MAINE.

HANCOCK, ss.

I, Hutson B. Saunders, Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Courts, in said County, certify that Thomas Warren Esquire is and was at the date of his Certificate an acting Justice of the Peace, in and for said County, duly commissioned and qualified to act as such, and that the signature to the paper annexed, purporting to be his, is genuine, and that he is duly authorized and empowered, by the laws of said State, to take acknowledgment of Deeds, Assignments, and Powers of Attorney, and to administer oaths.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed the Seal of the Supreme Judicial Court, for said State, this eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven.

(Seal.)

HUTSON B SAUNDERS *Clerk.*

No. 44.

This is to certify, That the undersigned Seth and C. H. S. Webb have been engaged in the fishing business, for the past Ten years, at Deer Isle, Maine, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows: viz. since 1871

No. of Vessels employed.....	3.	15	men to each vessel
No. of Trips made.....	five	trips each year	
	1871	1872	1873

No. of trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	3	2	0	0	0	0
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No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
---	------	------	------	------	------	------

	754	854	0	0	0	0
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No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalen Islands	all caught a Magdalens
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Average value of vessels each	\$4000.
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Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	\$3000.
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Average Value of Insurance.....	10% on vessel & outfits yearly
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Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$37.50
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Average value of Commissions, &c	\$175.
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Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore....	\$2000
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Number of vessels lost	none
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Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
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Value of Fish lost	
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Number of Lives lost	none
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Total value of Fsh taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
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Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl	\$1.50
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Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	nothing
--	---------

Total value of Mackerel do	nothing
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Average market value of American Shore Mackerel ..	\$16.00	\$12.00	\$8.00
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Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	\$11.00	\$7.00	\$5.00
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Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$200.
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring nothing
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish
 Grand, Western La Have & Georges Banks
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 Cape May to Gulf St. Lawrence
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Had we not put seines on board our vessels, and sent them on our shore, we would have been obliged to abandon the mackerel fishery entirely, for mackerel were scarce and of poor quality in the Bay, and we were obliged to pay exorbitant prices at the British ports, for salt, bait and general supplies, so that it was impossible for our vessels to pay their bills, It is now utterly impossible to ship a crew to go to the Bay on shares, for they cannot make a living. Mackerel are plenty and of good quality on our shore, and the risk and expence to take them is very much less than from the Bay, We consider the Bay fisheries an absolute failure, None of our vessels used the inshore fisheries of the Dominion, as they could derive no advantage thereby.

SETH WEBB
 C. H. S. WEBB

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this eighth day of June 1877

THOMAS WARREN

Justice of the Peace

STATE OF MAINE.

HANCOCK, SS.

I, Hutson B. Saunders, Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Courts, in said County, certify that Thomas Warren Esquire is and was at the date of this Certificate an acting Justice of the Peace, in and for said County, duly commissioned and qualified to act as such, and that the signature to the paper annexed, purporting to be his, is genuine, and that he is duly authorized and empowered, by the laws of said State, to take acknowledgment of Deeds, Assignments, and Powers of Attorney, and to administer oaths.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed the Seal of the Supreme Judicial Court, for said State, this eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven

(Seal.)

HUTSON B SAUNDERS

Clerk.

No. 45.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, John Staples have been engaged in the fishing business, for the past thirty years, at Swans Island Maine, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect our vessels have been employed as follows: namely Since 1870

No. of Vessels employed four (4) 13 men to each vessel
 No. of Trips made five trips yearly each year

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	none	none	none	2	none	none	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence							1873
							200 Bbls
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	all caught off Shore						
Average value of Vessels each	20000						
Average value of outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	20000						
Average value of Insurance	10 per cent on vessel & outfits yearly						
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$833						
Average value of Commissions, &c.	240 to each Captain yearly						
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	21000						
Number of Vessels lost							
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits							
Value of Fish lost							
Number of Lives lost							
Total value of Fish Taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.	80 cents,						
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	\$2.00						
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	none						
Total value of Mackerel do	none						
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	No 1	No 2	No 3				
	16	12	8				
Average Market value of Bay Mackerel	11	7	5				
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	240						
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies							
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	nothing						
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages							
Amount paid in British ports for repairs							
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish							
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel							
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking							
Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken							
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries							

When I Started in the fishing business Some thirty years Since—all fish were caught on hand line & Mackerel on the jig—Early in my Sending to the bay of St Lawrence my vessels made some fares that left a dividend to to the owners—I kept sending to the Bay & sustaining losses I last Sent one vessel in 1873 and lost. The quantity fell off and the quality was poor & unsaleable of Bay fish—Some now are used for mackerel & Trawls for fish—and I consider the right to fish inshore confers no benefit at all on American fishermen & no one here thinks of sending to the Bay

JOHN STAPLES

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this sixth day of June 1877

THOMAS WARREN

Justice of the Peace

STATE OF MAINE.

HANCOCK, SS.

I, Hutson B. Saunders, Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Courts, in said County, certify that Thomas Warren Esquire is and was at the date of

his Certificate an acting Justice of the Peace, in and for said County, duly commissioned and qualified to act as such, and that the signature to the paper annexed, purporting to be his, is genuine, and that he is duly authorized and empowered, by the laws of said State, to take acknowledgment of Deeds, Assignments, and Powers of Attorney, and to administer oaths.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed the Seal of the Supreme Judicial Court, for said State, this sixth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven

(Seal.)

HUTSON B SAUNDERS *Clerk.*

No. 46.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Perkins Brothers have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Nine (9)					
No. of Trips made.....	Six trips to each vessel					

	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	5	2	3	4	1	3
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	3093 Bbls. in six years average 172 Bbls per trip.					

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	mostly at Magdalenes
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Average value of Vessels each	\$5000.
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Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$3000, a year to each vessel
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Average value of insurance	9%
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Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$35.00
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Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$200. each vessel
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Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore ..	\$23,000.
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Number of Vessels lost	one
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Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$4000
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Value of Fish lost	\$1500
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Number of Lives lost	none
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Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting &c. per cwt.	75 cts
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Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	\$1.50
--	--------

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	none
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Total value of Mackerel do.	\$600.
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Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	No 1 \$16.00	No 2 \$12.00	No 3 \$8.00
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Average market value of Bay Mackerel	No 1 \$12.00	No 2 \$8.00	No 3 \$6.00
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Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$225.00
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Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	\$800. a year
--	---------------

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs	\$500. in five years
--	----------------------

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Banks Georgees

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Cape May to Gulf of St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

The Bay of St. Lawrence fisheries have not proved remunerative, or paying, business our vessels have not paid their expenses consequently we shall confine our vessels to our own shores for mackerel and to the Ocean Banks for Cod Fish. We shall send no vessels to Bay of St. Lawrence this year. We use the British waters only to procure bait and other supplies

W H PERKINS

GEORGE PERKINS

WM. H. PERKINS, JR.

GEORGE H PERKINS

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirty first day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

PERKIN BROTHERS.

GLOUCESTER MASS—

Account of receipts &c from trips to the Bay for the last four (4) years—mostly caught at the Magdalenes

1872

Highflyer:

159 bbls	No. 1	\$12.50	\$1679.30	
47 "	No. 2	9.50	356.75	
2 "	No. 3	7.00	10.05	\$2046 10

1873

73 bbls	No. 1	\$15	\$960.18	
68 "	No. 2	11	612.54	
61 "	No. 3	9	432.16	\$2004 88

C. Campbell

160 bbls	No. 1	\$12.	\$1601.35	
3 mess	17 (labor)		57.23	
4 bbls	No. 2	8	29.22	\$1687 85

1874

C. Campbell

35 bbls	No. 1	\$12	\$350.00	
151 "	No. 2	8	907.00	
43 "	No. 3	7.25	230.40	
20 "	No. 4.	6.	82.36	\$1569 86

F. Temple

54 bbls	No. 1	\$9.75	\$418.50	
69 "	No. 2	8.	415.20	\$843 70

C. Campbell

112 mess	\$12 (labor)	\$1123.40		
28 bbls	No. 1	8.	169.50	
30 "	No. 2	6.50	137.07	\$1429 97

Veteran

222 bbls	No. 1	\$8	\$1332.90	
256 "	No. 2	6	1026.10	
5 "	No. 3	5	16 00	\$2375 00

1875

C. Campbell

35 mess	\$21	} Labor on fish	\$678.95	
108 scraped	17		1628.00	
46 bbls No. 1	15		605.50	
11 " No. 2	12		119.40	
5 " No. 4	7		29.30	\$3061 15

WM. H. PERKINS

By W. H. P. Jr.

GEORGE H. PERKINS

By W. H. P. Jr.

GEORGE PERKINS

By W. H. P. Jr.

WM. H. PERKINS, JR.

No. 47.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of John Pew & Son have been engaged in the fishing business for the past (1849-1877) 28 years at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed—an average of.....	18½
No. of Trips made	830
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	23
No of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	6059
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	

From general talk with our Skippers during the time. we have always understood all caught were outside of 3 miles—We have no definite knowledge that any were caught inside.

Average value of Vessels each.....	\$5000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$3500
Average value of Insurance	\$300
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo ...	\$35.00
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore Value of wharves. fish houses &c \$75.000. Yearly expense acct. adding for partners time	\$30.000

Number of Vessels lost.....	2
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$10.000
Value of Fish lost	\$1.200
Number of Lives lost.....	19
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.	\$1.25

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl. \$2.00

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores None

Total value of Mackerel do None

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

No. 3	No. 2	No. 1
\$8.00	\$12.00	& \$16.00

No. 3	No. 2	No. 1
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Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... \$6½ \$8.00 & \$12.00

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$300. during that time though less at present.

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....\$600 pr year.
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring\$3000 " "
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages & shares

at least \$15,000 yearly

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Banks off the American coast, Sable bank, Quero St. Peters & Grand Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Cape Henry to Bay of Fundy & occasionally the Bay of St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water before taking..... No value

Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken No value

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries: Our Cod fisheries have been those of greatest value. We fish for Cod on the Banks off our own shores, and the past 5 years have sent a large number to the Grand Banks. The latter as a business investment has not paid. We market all the product of our fisheries in the United States. There is no other market, of any value for Mackerel and none for Halibut except our own. The opening of our market to the Provincial fishermen is very injurious to us, as they pay no duties while all we used is heavily taxed. The privilege of their markets or their inshore fishery is of no value compared to the privilege of free entry to our markets.

JOHN J PEW,
 for JOHN PEW & SON.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirtieth day of June 1877
 (Seal.) DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public.

No. 48.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Smith & Oakes have been engaged in the fishing business for the past ten years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	6
No. of Trips made.....	56 per year
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1871—1 1873—2 1874—1
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	1050
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalen Islands	Unknown
Average value of Vessels each	\$5000.
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	\$5000 per year
Average value of Insurance...\$4375, or 9 per cent on Vessel & outfits yearly	
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	\$35. per month.
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$500 each Vessel yearly
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c. for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$12,000, \$25000, \$17,500
Number of Vessels lost.....	1
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	8000
Value of Fish lost.....	nothing
Number of Lives lost	17

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt 75c
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl \$1.00
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores 000
 Total value of Mackerel do 000
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

No. 1. \$16.00 No. 2 \$12.00, No. 3 \$8.00

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

No. 1s \$12.00 No. 2s \$7.00 No. 3s \$5.00

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$298.28

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies \$100.00 each Vessel per year

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring \$1700.00 per year for 2 years

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages 000

Amount paid in British ports for repairs \$25.00 per year per vessel

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georges to Grand Bank, Labrador Bay St Lawrence

Location frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Cape May to Gd. Menan & Bay St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking 000

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken 000

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

The Gloucester vessels fishing on Georges most of them used to give up that branch of the business, commencing the last of May (nearly all having given up by the last of June) and go to the Bay of St Lawrence for Mackerel but since the failure of the mackerel fishing in the Bay of St Lawrence a larger number follow Georges fishing through the year, and others remain on this coast to catch mackerel, using seines instead of hook & line. Larger vessels are now used than formerly and more are engaged in the Grand Bank fisheries.

PETER D SMITH

SMITH & OAKES

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this eighth day of June 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 49.

This is to certify, that the undersigned, composing the firm of Walen & Allen have been engaged in the fishing business for the past eight years, at Gloucester, Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed Fourteen

No. of Trips made Four hundred & fifty

No. of Trips to Bay of St. Lawrence Five

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence Ten hundred & Forty Two bbls.

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands Two hundred & Fifty bbls.

Average value of Vessels each Six thousand dollars

Average value of outfits, Salt, Bait, &c. One thousand dollars

Average value of Insurance Fifty-Two hundred dollars

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.

Thirty dollars

Average value of Commissions, &c. Three hundred & Fifty

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Twenty Five thousand dollars

Number of Vessels lost..... Five

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits..... Eighteen thousand dollars

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost..... None

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per out one dollar

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per bbl..... Four dollars

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores

Total value of Mackerel do Three hundred dollars & yrs

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

Eleven & $\frac{1}{2}$ per bbl

Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... $\frac{1}{2}$ average

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... \$250

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies

Twenty Five hundred dolls

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Twelve thousand in 5 years

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand, Western, & Georges Bank, Seal Island &c

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Mostly Magdalene Islands

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taking..... "

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Most of our vessels are codfishing on the Ocean Banks and some of them are off our own shores mackerelling We send no vessels into the Bay of St Lawrence this year. Our experience is that the Mackerel fishery there is a failure. Last year we sent one vessel 150 Tons with 20 Men and she brought home as her seasons work 70 Bbls of mackerel. as that fishery has been the last 5 years to pursue it would be ruinous. Our Vessels enter British waters only for supplies & Bait for which we pay cash

MICHAEL WALEN

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this fourth day of June 1877

(Seal).

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 50.

This is to certify, that the undersigned, composing the firm of Pettin-gill & Cunningham have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Fourteen years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed..... Six

No. of Trips made..... from five to six each vessel yearly

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence..... Six in five years

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence..... 1200 Bbls

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not includ

ing Magdalene Islands..... 300 Bbls

Average value of Vessels each.....Five thousand Dollars
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.

\$1000 per Bay trip \$3000 yearly each vessel

Average value of Insurance.....\$300 per year each vessel

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....\$35

Average value of Commissions, &c.....\$200 each vessel yearly

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
 including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.\$10,000

Number of Vessels lost.....One

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....\$7,000

Value of Fish lost.....\$1,500

Number of Lives lost.....Eleven

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.
 \$1,50

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl.....\$2,50

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....None

Total value of Mackerel do.....\$3,000

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel \$16 \$12 \$8
 1 2 3

Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... No 1 No 2 No 3
 \$12 \$8 \$6

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....\$300

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice and various supplies
 500 each vessel or \$3000 yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....\$400 yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....\$5000 yearly

Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....1500 "

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georges Grand Western La Have Bks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

American Shores north of Cape May

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
 eries

For the last three years we have been obliged to send all our vessels
 Bank Fishing putting into British ports for supplies &c The mackerel
 fishery in the Bay of St Lawrence falling off so much in quantity and
 quality as to make it impossible for American Vessels with their cost
 and equipment to pay their expenses.

CHARLES D PETTINGELL.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this fifth day of June 1877
 (Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 51.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of B. Mad-
 docks & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past nine
 years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so
 called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....Fifteen (15)

No. of Trips made.....Three hundred & Sixty four (364)

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....Twenty one (21)

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence

Forty six hundred (4600)

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
Magdalene Islands

Not more than one fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) part of the Bay St Lawrence mack'l

Average value of Vessels each.... Forty five Hundred (\$4500) dollars

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.

\$4300, pr year or \$700, Trip for each Vessel (\$1200, for each Bay Trip).

Average value of Insurance

Four and one half pr cent pr year for Six Months

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz. wages per mo

Capt \$70 & Crew \$25 each

Average value of Commissions, &c \$300, for each vessel pr year

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Sixteen thousand (\$16,000.00) dollars pr Year

Number of Vessels lost Four (4)

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits

Seventeen thousand (\$17000) dollars

Value of Fish lost.....Thirty five hundred (\$3500) dollars

Number of Lives lost.....Thirty three (33)

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
bbl. But no fish and very few mackerell

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores

Impossible to make correct estimate

Total value of Mackerel do..... " " " "

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

Eleven dollars pr Barrel

Average market value of Bay Mackerel....Eight $\frac{5}{100}$ dollars pr Barrel

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

Two hundred & seventy five dollars

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies

Three Thousand dollars pr. Year

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Two thousand dollars pr. Year

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages Two thousand dollars

Amount paid in British ports for repairs: ..Twenty six hundred dollars

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georges, Sable Island, and Grand Banks, & Gulf and Bay St. Lawrence

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Atlantic Coast from Cape Hatteras to Eastport Me.

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking None

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken None

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

We employed a part of our fleet in the Bay St Lawrence fisheries,
during the years of 1871-2-3, and found it to be a losing business, and
since 1873 we have employed our vessels in the Grand Banks & Georges
and American Shore fisheries with the exception of one Trip to the Bay
St Lawrence, in 1874, which did not pay one half the expenses of the
voyage; and we consider the Bay St. Lawrence fisheries entirely worth-
less to us, and have so considered them for the past four or five Years.

BENJ. MADDOCKS

B. MADDOCKS & CO.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this fourth day of June 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 52.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Geo Dennis & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past ten years, at Gloucester and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....Eight
 No. of Trips.....4 trips yearly Each Vessel
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence

1872—1 trip 1873—1 trip 1874—2 trips 1875—1 trip

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence
 93 Bls — 94½ — 505, 80 Bls

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....None

Average value of Vessels each4000,

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c600 each trip

Average value of Insurance.... 200 9 per cts on Vessel & Outfits

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.

forty Dollars

Average value of Commissions, &cThree hundred Dollars

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

fifteen Thousand Dols

Number of Vessels lost.....None

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt-
 (50) fifty cents

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl.....Three Dollars

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....None

Total value of Mackerel do“

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....Ten Dollars
 \$16—\$12—\$8
 \$11—\$7—\$5

Average market value of Bay MackerelSeven Dollars

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

Two hundred Dollars

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies

Each year Eight hundred Dollars

Amount paid to British fishermen

for herring.....“ Five “ “

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

8 men forty Dollars per month

Amount paid in British ports for repairs..Twenty one hundred Dollars

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Western Bank. Grand Bank.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Gulf of St Lawrence to cape May

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken“

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Lines & Trawls & Hand lines are used for taking fish

Our vessells are mostly confined to Ocean Banks for Fish. we do not take any fish in British waters. the Bay St. Lawrence fisheries have proved a failer in our experiance. Vessells sent their for the past five years have not paid their expenses and to continue the Business in that Direction would prove Ruinous.

GEO DENNIS
GEORGE TUCKER

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 53.

This is to certify, that the undersigned, Joseph O. Procter has been engaged in the fishing business for the past Thirty years, at Gloucester, Mass. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, my vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed Thirteen
No. of Trips made Six yearly to each vessel—78

1872 73 74 75 76

No. of Trips to Bay of St. Lawrence 5 13 11 5 1
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence

7486 Bbils in 5 years or 211 Bbils per trip on the average.

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
Magdalene Islands 750

Average value of Vessels each 5,000

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c. \$3,500.00 yearly to each vessel

Average value of Insurance \$300.00 yearly to each vessel

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo

\$35. pr month

Average value of Commissions, &c. \$200.00 pr Vessel per year

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,

including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore. \$30,000.00

Number of vessels lost Three

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits Fifteen thousand dollars

Value of Fish lost Four thousand dollars

Number of Lives lost Fifteen

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.

from 50 to \$1.00.

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per

bbl. Two dollars

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores ... None

Total value of Mackerel do \$6,850, delivered at Gloucester

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

No. 1, \$16. No. 2—\$12. No. 3—\$8.00

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

No. 1—\$12. No. 2—8, No. 3—\$6.—

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

Three hundred dollars

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies

\$1,800.—yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring \$900 each Season

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs Nothing

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georges, Grand, Querau, St Peters and other Banks off Shore

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 From Cape Henry to Cape Northe. Cape Breton
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking } No value. Costs all they
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken } bring to catch, and prepare
 them for market.

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Since the year 1870 the number of vessels using the Bay of St Lawrence for Mackerel catching has been gradually reduced from about 500 to less than 60 vessels from the United States; the Mackerel being poor and in small quantity; while on our Shores Mack'l have been more plenty, of better quality, and a large fleet engaged from April 25th to Nov. 10th. All the Vessels on our Shore now use the Seine, and none, the hook and line as formerly. Seining has not been successfully carried on in the Bay of St Lawrence, the shoalness of the water and the unevenness of the bottom, where the few Mack'l there tend; has made every voyage unsuccessful, and caused an abandonment of the business. There will probably be less Vessels in the Bay this Season than any season during the last Forty. Our Cod fisheries are *deep Sea* fisheries, and outside of all local jurisdiction.

JOSEPH O. PROCTER.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this fifth day of June 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 54.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Samuel Haskell have been engaged in the fishing business for the past fifteen years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Six.
No. of Trips made...Seven & 8 trips yearly to each Vessel, total 5 yrs	223
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence...4	2 3 0 0 total 9
No. Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	
	1872 1873 1874
	1100 bls 420 bls 383 bls total 3 yrs 1903
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	125 Bbls
Average value of Vessels each	five thousand Dollars.
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c....	\$2700 to each vessel yearly
Average value of Insurance.....	\$200 each vessel yearly
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	
	Captain \$70 Crews \$30 each
Average value of Commission, &c..	\$200 each vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	
	\$12000 yearly
Number of Vessels lost.....	One
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$6500
Value of fish lost.....	\$600
Number of lives lost.....	Ten
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
	One Dollar

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c.,
per bbl..... \$1.50 etc
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..... None
Total value of Mackerel do \$1100 delivered at Gloucester
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

No 1. \$16 No 2. \$12, No 3 \$8

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

No. 1 \$12 No 2, \$8 No 3, \$6 I sold for \$10.85

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year... \$275 at my place

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies

\$200 each vessel yearly. total \$1200 yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... \$600 each year

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... None

Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... None

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand, Western, La, have, Georges Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Cape May to Eastport & Bay St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries :

Have sent no vessels into the Bay of St Lawrence the last two years, the Bay fishing does not pay the expenses. The last years I had vessels there in 73 & 74 they did not pay for their outfits The Mackerel are poor worth $\frac{1}{3}$ d less than shore mackerel it is a bad place to use a seine a long time is required for a trip and to pursue the Bay fishery, and that alone, would fail any firm in Gloucester. It is entirely & practically useless to us as a fishery. The Halibut and cod fishery are entirely Bank fisheries owing no allegiance to any Government

SAML HASKELL

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirty first day of May 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public.

No. 55.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Joseph Friend have been engaged in the fishing business for the past 40 years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed 8..... 12 men each vessel

No. of Trips made..... 6 to each Vessel

1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of trips to Bay St. Lawrence..... 4 3 1 0 0

1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay of St.

Lawrence 1500 1200 220 0 0

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including

Magdelene Islands..... about one tenth

Average value of Vessels each..... 6000, each

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... 2000, do yearly

Average value of Insurance 9 & on vessels & outfits

Average value of Captains' and crews' time, viz., wages per mo. .35 each

Average value of Commissions, &c..... 200 each vessel

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore....	\$20000
Number of vessels lost.....	one in Bay. St. Lawrence
Value of vessels lost, including outfits	7000
Value of Fish lost	none
Number of Lives lost	12
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt. .50	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	1.50
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	none
Total value of Mackerel do.....	600,
	Nos 1 2 3
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	16, 12, 8,
	Nos 1 2 3
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	11. 7. 5.
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$225.
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	900.00
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	7000.00 yearly
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	200.00 do
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	

Grand Banks & Georges

Locations frequented by American vessels for mackerel

from Cape May to Gulf of St. Law.

Actual value of Fish in the water, before takingnothing.

Actual value of mackerel in the water, before takendo

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Years ago we sent meny, vessels to the Bay, of, St Lawrence for Mackerel but for, the last five years the business has proved so unprofitable we cannot pursue it my, vessels are now confined to the Ocean banks and our own shores intirely our shore Mackerel being much, superior in quality and being taken with Seins realize a larger profit then any, other Mackerel fishery my, vessels enter British waters only, for. Bait suplies and Herring for, which I, pay, cash to the Inhabitants

JOSEPH FRIEND

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this first day of June 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 56.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Samuel Lane & Bro have been engaged in the fishing business for the past thirteen years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Six
No. of Trips made.....	252
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	10
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	2500
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	100
Average value of Vessels each	\$4000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$800
Average value of Insurance.....	\$3500

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$45
Average value of Commissions, &c	\$175
Average value of Wharves, Fish houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$27000
Number of Vessels lost	1
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$5700
Value of Fish lost	none.
Number of Lives lost	12
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	\$2
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per bbl.	\$3
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	none
Total value of Mackerel do.	\$300
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	\$12
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	\$7 per Bbl.
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$400 per man.
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies	\$950 per Trip.
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	\$4300
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	\$8750 for mackl. caught Bay St. Lawrence.
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	\$2500
Locations frequented by American vessels for fish	none in Bay of St. Lawrence.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
P. E. Island—Magdalene Is—C. B. Is.

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking. no value.
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken no value.
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

Before the year 1871 the Bay of St. Lawrence was some benefit to Gloucester Mackerel Fishermen, but since then the mackl have been more plenty on the American Coast, therefore the Glou mackerel ves- sels have been growing less in no every year that formerly engaged in the Bay of St. Lawrence mackerel fishing and have tended the Amer- ican coast with seines for mackerel. We consider Fishing in the Bay of St. Lawrence of no value.

SAML LANE }
GEO. E. LANE }

SAML LANE & BRO

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this first day of June 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 57.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of George Steele have been engaged in the fishing business for the past 25 years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	average nine
No. of Trips made	50 in 6 year
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	19 " "
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	about 50000
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not includ- ing Magdalene Islands	none

Average value of Vessels each	\$6500.
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	800. each trip
Average value of Insurance.....	9% on value vessel & outfit
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....	\$40.
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$350. each vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.	\$28000.
Number of Vessels lost	5
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	about \$45000.
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost.....	63
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....	50 cents
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl	\$1.00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..	nothing
Total value of Mackerel do	"
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	\$16 \$12 \$8
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	\$11. \$6. \$4.
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$250.
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies	\$200. per vessel yearly
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	\$50. per vessel yearly
Amount paid in British ports for repairs. \$750. per year for past 6 years	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	
Georges, Browns, Le Have & Grand Banks	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
from Cape May to Gulf St. Lawrence	
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.	nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries	

Hand lining has about given way to Trawls and Seines. The Bay of St. Lawrence fishing for Mackerel has not proved profitable; it has been gradually falling off for several years and vessels there do not now pay expenses. One vessel there last year for 3 mos with 16 men only packed out 69 Barrels. Our vessels pursue the deep water fishing on the Banks bordering the Gulf Stream and outside the jurisdiction of any nation.

GEORGE STEELE.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this second day of June 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

No. 58.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Cunningham & Thompson have been engaged in the fishing business for the past six years at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Ten, (10)
No. of Trips made	Seven yearly to each Vessel
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	Ten from 1870 to 1874

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence

Three thousand, \$3,000
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
 Magdalene Islands..... 200 Bbls
 Average value of Vessels each \$6,500
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.

\$1,000 for Bay trip. Average, \$3,000 yearly
 Average value of Insurance..... 9 per ct on Vessel & Outfits
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. \$40
 Average value of Commissions, &c.

4 pr ct on gross stock about \$200 each vessel.
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, in-
 cluding expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.

Appurtenances \$22,000 Labor \$5000 per Annum
 Number of Vessels lost Three
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits..... \$18,000

Value of Fish lost..... \$7,000
 Number of Lives lost..... Fifteen

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 cwt..... 75 cts

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl..... \$100

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..... None
 Total value of Mackerel do..... \$100

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel
 \$15 No. 1 \$12 No 2 \$8 No 3

Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... \$11 No 1 \$7 No 2 \$5 No 3

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$250
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-
 plies..... \$250 to each vessel.

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... \$300 yearly
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... \$150 per year.

Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... \$1000 yearly
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Western, Georges, and Grand Bank
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Long Island to Newfoundland

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... No value
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... No value

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
 eries

We have had no Vessels in the Bay of St. Lawrence since 1874 and at
 no time in the last 7 years have our vessels that went there paid their
 expenses, the privilege of fishing within three miles of British shores
 is of no value whatever Over one half of our Fishermen are natives of
 the Dominion employed by our Capital in our vessels and deriving
 maintenance therefrom, We consider the privilege of our free markets
 vastly in excess of value of any concessions of shore fishing given by the
 Dominion

SYLVESTER CUNNINGHAM
 WILLIAM THOMPSON

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this second day of June 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
 Notary Public

No. 59.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Dennis & Ayer have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twelve years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....	Fourteen
No. of Trips made.....	Eighty per year for all of the Vessels
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	Six since 1871
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	

Eighteen hundred Bbls

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	None
--	------

Average value of Vessels each.....	Six thousand dollars
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Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	One thousand dollars
---	----------------------

Average value of Insurance.....	Five thousand dollars
---------------------------------	-----------------------

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	
---	--

Thirty dollars

Average value of Commissions, &c....	four per cent. to Capt. of Vessel
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	
---	--

Forty thousand dollars

Number of Vessels lost.....	One
-----------------------------	-----

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	Eight thousand dollars
---	------------------------

Value of Fish lost.....	one thousand do
-------------------------	-----------------

Number of Lives lost.....	Twelve
---------------------------	--------

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.....	One dollars
--	-------------

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	Two dollars
--	-------------

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	None
--	------

Total value of Mackerel do.....	None
---------------------------------	------

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	Ten dollars
--	-------------

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	Eight dollars per Bbls
---	------------------------

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	
--	--

Two hundred & Seventy-five dollars.

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies.....	Two hundred dollars per year for each vessel.
--	---

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
--	--

One thousand dollars per Year Newfoundland

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	None
--	------

Amount paid in British ports for repairs....	one thousand dollars 1873.
--	----------------------------

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	
---	--

Georges La Haven Western & Grand Bank's

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
---	--

Coast of the United States & Gulf St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	Nothing
---	---------

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	Nothing
--	---------

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries	
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Within last three years we have not had any Vessels engaged in Fishing in British Waters either for Cod or Mackerel.

The Mackerel fishing being done on the Coast of the United States from New Jersey to and along the Eastern Coast of Maine and those engaged in Cod Fishing on Georges Western Le Have & Grand Banks not resorting to British Waters except to purchase Bait and occasionally for Ice.

The Gulf of St Lawrence Fishery is so unprofitable that we consider it an entire failure.

JAMES S AYER.

DENNIS & AYER

JOHN G DENNIS

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 60.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the Jury of
engaged in the fishing business for the past years, at
Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Seven
No. of Trips made	Thirty five Yearly
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	Two in 1873 none since
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	400
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	None
Average value of Vessels each	\$3800,
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	\$800,
Average value of Insurance	\$4400, or about 9 per cent
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$35, \$200.00 each vessel
Average value of Commissions, &c	4 per cent on Gross Stock to Skipper
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$18000.
Number of Vessels lost	One
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$6400
Value of Fish lost	None
Number of Lives lost	Twelve
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	75 cts
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per bbl.	\$1.00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	None
Total value of Mackerel do.	None
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	\$14. for ones \$12, for twos \$8, for threes
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	\$11, for ones \$8, for twos \$6, for threes
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$250.
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	\$400, Yearly
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	\$220, Yearly
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Gr. Bank La Have Banks
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	Cape May to Bay St Lawrence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

The Bay of St Lawrence fishery has proved a failure in my experience my vessels not having paid their bills or expenses consequently I now confine my vessels to our own Shores for Mackerel and the Ocean Banks for fish My vessels do not enter British Waters except for Bait or supplies

WM. C. WONSON

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirty first day of May 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 61.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of
have been engaged in the fishing business for the past years, at
and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been
in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....	(5) Five
No. of Trips made.....	231 Codfish trips. 17 mackerel Trips
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	(11) Eleven
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	2301
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	Most caught off Magdalenes.
Average value of Vessels each	\$6.000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	\$2.000
Average value of Insurance	9% on Vessel & Outfits.
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.....	\$40
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200 each Sch'r.
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.....	\$18.000
Number of Vessels lost.....	(1) one
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$7.000
Value of Fish lost.....	\$500
Number of Lives lost.....	none
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c per cwt. 75 c	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2.00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	no fish
Total value of Mackerel do.	\$500.
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	\$16 No 1's \$12 no 2's \$8 no 3
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	\$11 75 no 1 \$7.50 no 2 \$5.50 no 3s
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$200—
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	\$100—yearly.
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Grand Bank—Georges Bank—
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	Cape May & Gulf St Lawrence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Have withdrawn vessels from Bay on acc of being unprofitable—
 business to pursue.

Our codfishing is pursued on Ocean Banks within no national Jurisdiction

Our vessels do not go in British water except to purchase Bait & supplies

EPES SAYWARD JR,
 GEO SAYWARD

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirty first day of May 1877
 (Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 62.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Daniel Sayward have been engaged in the fishing business for the past thirteen years, at Gloucester, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No of Vessels employed..... 7 to 5 seven to five

No. of Trips made..... 188 One hundred eighty eight

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence..... 12 Twelve in five years.

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence..... 2398.

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
 Magdalene Islands 00

Average value of Vessels each..... \$6600. in 1871.

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... 800, " "

Average value of Insurance..... 5775, " "

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.

Average value of Commissions, &c.

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
 including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

\$20000, " "

Number of Vessels lost..... 3

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits..... \$18000

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost..... 35

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per
 cwt. 75 per hundred

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl \$1.50 per bbl.

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..... 0

Total value of Mackerel do..... 0

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

No. 1 \$16. No. 2 \$12. No. 3 \$8.

Average market value of Bay Mackerel No. 1 \$12. No. 2 \$8. No. 3 \$6.

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... \$225.

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies..... \$100, yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish Grand, West-
 ern and George's Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel.....American Shores & Bay St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... 0

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... 0

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

My vessels have not paid their expenses for the last five years while employed in taking mackerel at the Bay of St. Lawrence. The quality of the mackerel being poor, and the length of the trips making them so expensive that I cannot pursue this business to advantage.

All of my codfishing business is pursued out on the ocean banks outside of the jurisdiction of any nation. Entering British waters *only* for the purchase of bait and supplies.

DANIEL SAYWARD

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirty first day of May 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 63.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of William Parsons 2d & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Thirty years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed..... Fourteen

No. of Trips made.. Five trips yearly each vessel, Total, 90 trips per year
1871 1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.. 3 3 4 2 0 0
Total 6 years 12

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence..... Two thousand

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands..... 250 Bbls

Average value of vessels each Five thousand Dollars

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.... \$2800 yearly to each vessel

Average value of Insurance \$300 yearly to each vessel

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.... \$35

Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$200 each vessel

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Twenty thousand Dollars, yearly

Number of vessels lost..... One

Value of vessels lost, including outfits..... Seven thousand Dollars

Value of Fish lost..... Two thousand "

Number of Lives lost..... fourteen

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c.
per cwt..... 75 cts

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting,
&c., per bbl..... \$2,00

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.... None

Total value of Mackerel do..... 2500 in Gloucester Market

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

We sold for \$15 \$10 \$8

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

We sold for No 1 \$10 No 2 \$8 No 3 \$6

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

\$200 at one place

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies
 200 each vessel.....\$2800 yearly
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....\$1,000 yearly
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....None
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....five Hundred
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georges Grand Western La Have Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 from Long Island to Newfoundland
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....Nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken.....Nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American
 fisheries

For the past eight years fishing in British waters has been a total
 failure We have tried it thoroughly & completely—and our vessels
 sent to the Bay have not paid their expenses. American fishermen
 would have been much better off never to have gone into those waters
 Seining has superseded the Hook & line fishing for Mackerel, the best
 mackerel are off our own coasts nearer our markets, our vessels make
 short trips, the mackerel are in better condition, We have sent no ves-
 sels in the Bay the last two years, No Codfish are taken by our vessels
 inside of British limits

THOMAS L. PARSONS
 EBEN PARSONS 2d
 GEORGE PARSONS

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877.

DAVID W. LOW

(Seal.)

Notary Public

No. 64.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Won-
 son & Co., have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twen-
 ty five years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty,
 so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Ten (10)
No. of Trips made.....	five each vessel yearly
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
	2, 2, 2, 2, 1,
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence 350, 400, 325, 300, 150
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
 Magdalene Islands

Mackerel caught at the Magdelena

Average value of Vessels each	\$5000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$3000 yearly each vessel
Average value of Insurance.....	9 per cent on Vessel & Outfits
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$40
Average value of Commissions, &c.	200 each vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$20,000 yearly

Number of Vessels lost.....None
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....None
 Value of Fish lost
 Number of Lives lost

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 cwt. 75 cts
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl. \$1.00
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores. None
 Total value of Mackerel do. None
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel 16 10 8
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel 11 8 6
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$250
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice,
 and various supplies 200 each vessel yearly
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 \$600 to \$800 for 4 vessels each yearly
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Bank & Georges

Locations frequented by American vessels

Cape May to Bay St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking Nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken Nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
 eries

Our vessels have been Cod fishing on the Banks & Mackereling mostly
 off our own shores, The Bay of St Lawrence fishery has constantly grown
 poorer Our vessels did not pay their expenses shall send no vessels
 there this year Our own Shore Mackerel are worth a third more than
 Bay Mackerel, We are using Seines where we formerly used Hooks &
 lines, The Cod fishery is pursued on the Banks bordering on the Gulf
 Stream many miles from any shores and within no National jurisdiction

WONSON BROTHERS

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877.

W. S. WONSON

(Seal.)

S G WONSON JR

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 65.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Geo
 Norwood & Son have been engaged in the fishing business for the past
 Fifteen years, at Gloucester Mass. and that since the Washington Treaty,
 so called. has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as fol-
 lows:

No. of Vessels employed Seven
 No. of Trips made Forty
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence Sixteen since 1871
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence
 Thirty-Six Hundred Barrels
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
 Magdalen Islands. None
 Average value of Vessels each Six Thousand dollars
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c One Thousand dollars
 Average value of Insurance Five Thousand dollars

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo
 Thirty dollars
 Average value of Commissions, &c., four per cent. to Captain of Vessel
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
 including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors, and labor on shore
 Twenty thousand dollars
 Number of Vessels lost None
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.
 Value of Fish lost.
 Number of lives lost Four
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 cwt. One dollar
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl. Two dollars
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores. Nothing
 Total value of Mackerel do. Nothing
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel. Ten dollars per Barrel
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel. Eight dollars per barrel
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year
 Two hundred & fifty dollars
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies
 Two hundred dollars per year for each Vessel
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages. None
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs. Four hundred dollars Since 1871
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish
 Georges, Grand, Western, & La Have, Banks
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 Coast of United States & Gulf St. Lawrence
 Actual value of Fish in the water before taking Nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken Nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
 eries.
 We have not had any Vessels engaged in British Waters fishing since
 1873

GEO NORWOOD
 FREDERIC NORWOOD

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirty first day of May 1877
 (Seal.) DAVID W. LOW
 Notary Public

No. 66.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Leon
 ard Walen have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Ten
 years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so
 called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of vessels employed Four
 No. of Trips made Six trips yearly each vessel. Total, 24 each year
 1872 1873
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence 2 1
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence 900 Barrels
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
 Magdalene Islands None
 Average value of Vessels each \$7,500
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c
 \$900 for Bay trip. (\$3000 each vessel ye

Average value of Insurance.....	300 each vessel yearly
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....	\$35
Average value of Commissions, &c	200 each vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.	\$11,000
Number of vessels lost	Three
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$21,000
Value of Fish lost	\$4,000
Number of Lives lost.....	Twenty six
Total value of fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	\$1,00
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2,00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	None
Total value of Mackerel do.....	None
Average market value of American shore mackerel	No 1 \$16 No 2, \$12, No. 3, \$8

Average market value Bay Mackerel

I sold for No 1 \$12, No 2, \$8 No 3 \$6,

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.. \$300 per year

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies
\$2,300 YearlyAmount paid to British fishermen for herring None |Amount paid to British fishermen as wages None |Amount paid in British ports for repairs \$300 |

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Banks, Western, Georges, La Have

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Long Island Sound to Bay St Lawrence along shore

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... Nothing |Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... Nothing |

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

The Fisheries and the mode of taking has changed much in ten years, formerly the shore fisheries were used when hand lines and hooks were used now fish are taken on the Banks with trawls and Mackerel with seines, Our vessels are the best that can be built and go everywhere on the Ocean Banks for fish the fish are met and taken on the Banks nearest the Gulfstream as they come on the Banks to spawn, the Bay of St Lawrence is entirely unprofitable to American fishermen owing to the great expense of running the vessels and the poor quality and quantity of fish & Mackerel there.

LEONARD WALEN

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirty first day of May 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W LOW

Notary Public

No. 67.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Rowe Jordan have been engaged in the fishing business for the past nine years, at Gloucester and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	ten
No. of Trips made.....	eight each year by each vessel
No. of Trips to Bay St Lawrence.....	twenty one (21)
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay of St. Lawrence.....	5462

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands none
 Average value of Vessels each fifty five hundred dollars at present time
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c. one thousand "
 Average value of Insurance forty-eight hundred "
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. 3900 each vessel
 Average value of Commissions, &c to Capt. \$350 each,
 Average value of Wharves, Fish houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore \$40,800
 Number of Vessels lost six during five years
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits 45425
 Value of Fish lost \$7000
 Number of Lives lost twenty five (25)
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt. 50c 7800000 lbs \$39,000
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl. \$1⁵⁰ 21000 bbls \$31,500
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores ... none
 Total value of Mackerel do none
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel... thirteen dollars
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel ten dollars
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$275
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies \$500 a year for each vessel

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs \$1500
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Georges Western & Labave Banks
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 Coast of Maine & Mass Long Island & Bay St Lawrence
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken "
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

During the last four years the facilities for catching mackerel have increased so that it does not pay to go for them from our own shores as they can be taken in great abundance here & beside the chances of getting them in Bay of St Lawrence & adjacent waters seem to grow less, or at all events the chances for getting either Mackerel or Cod Fish is so very uncertain that it is abandoned almost altogether, the vessels that pursued it did so at a heavy pecuniary loss last year & the year before—

JOSEPH ROWE.
 WILLIAM H. JORDAN.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877
 (Seal.) DAVID W. LAW
 Notary Public

No. 68.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Harvey Knowlton Jr have been engaged in the fishing business for the past five

years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	two
No. of Trips made	six each vessel yearly
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	five in five years
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	725 Bbls
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdelene Islands	none
Average value of Vessels each	\$7,000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c....	\$3,000 each vessel yearly
Average value of Insurance	\$300 " " "
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....	\$40
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	250 each vessel yearly
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore...	\$12000
Number of Vessels lost	One
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$5,500
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	Eleven
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....	\$1,00
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2,00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....	none
Total value of Mackerel do.....	none
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	\$16 \$12 \$8
	1 2 3
	No 1 No 2 No 3
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	\$12 \$8 \$6
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	250
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....	\$250 each vessel yearly
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	\$1500
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	\$1,000 yearly
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	none
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	
	Western Banks Grand Georges St Peters
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
	American Shore Bay St Lawrence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	

The Fisheries have changed from shore fishing to deep sea & Bank fishing. The mackerel fishery has changed from the hand line and hook to use of seines. The Bay of St Lawrence fishery has decreased from 300 vessels yearly to 40 last year. Not one of the vessels that went to the Bay of St Lawrence last year paid their expenses.

HARVEY KNOWLTON JR

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this thirty first day of May 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 69.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Sidney Friend & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past 40 years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....	13
No. of Trips made.....	sixty per year—for all the vessels
No. of Trips to Bay St Lawrence.....	(4) four (or whatever)
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	1005
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	none
Average value of Vessels each.....	\$10000, each
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	about \$700, per trip, or \$2800, per year
Average value of Insurance.....	\$4500, each vessel
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.....	\$11835, per month
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	3 per ct on gross stock—to Skipper
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.....	\$12000, for Establishment & \$4400, for labor making
	\$16,400, inclusive
Number of Vessels lost.....	one
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$6000.
Value of Fish lost.....	none
Number of Lives lost.....	13
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.....	75 cts
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$1.
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shore.....	none
Total value of Mackerel do.....	None
Average value of American Shore Mackerel.....	\$15, for ones, \$12, for twos \$8, for threes
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	\$12. for ones; \$8. for twos; \$6. for threes
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$250.
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....	\$200, each vessel.
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	\$100.
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	\$150.
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	\$1,000.
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish.....	Gd Bank, Le Have, Bradlee, Orphan
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel.....	from Long Island to New Foundland.
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries.....	
The Halibut & Cod fisheries are entirely deep-sea fisheries within no national jurisdiction. The mackerel fishery has largely changed from Hook & line fishing to seine fishing—the American shore mackerel	

bringing one third more in price than the Bay-mackerel on account of quality.

The Bay of St Lawrence fishery for mackerel has gradually deteriorated intill we cannot send vessels there at any profit whatever. Those vessels we have sent the past seven years have not paid their expenses We consider the Bay Fishery a failure and worthless to American fishermen.

SIDNEY FRIEND

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this first day of June 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 70.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of David Low and Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twenty five years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	fourteen
No. of Trips made.....	Six trips yearly each vessel
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
No. of Trips to Bay of St. Lawrence.....	5 5 2 1 0
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	1250 750 440 200 bls 0
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	
	not one tenth
Average value of Vessels each	Six thousand dollars each
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	Seventeen Hundred dollars value each vessel
Average value of Insurance.....	nine per cent vessel & outfits
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	Thirty dollars each
Average value of Commissions, &c.	Two hundred dollars
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	Thirty five thousand dollars
Number of vessels lost.....	one
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	five thousand dollars,
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	fifty cts
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	two dollars
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....	none
Total value of Mackerel do.....	Six hundred dollars
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	Sixteen, twelve, & eight
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	Eleven, Seven five
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	Two hundred fifty
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	four thousand dollars yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Two thousand dollars yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs, five hundred dollars yearly

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Bank & Georgias

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Bay of St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

After first of July we used to send most of our vessels ten years ago—to Bay of St Lawrence—but of late years that fishing proving of no value, our vessels looseing money. we have confined them entirely to our own shores and the ocean banks. we send no vessels in the British waters for fish or mackerel and only enter them for bait and Supplies for which we pay cash. we consider the Brittish inshore fisheries a complete failure

BENJAMIN LOW

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this first day of June 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 71.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Leighton & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past nine years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed Eighteen

No. of Trips made... Averaging about Eight Trips yearly to each vessel

1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence... 9 trips 14 Trips 4 Trips 1 Trip 1 Trip

1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence... 2851 4273 1341 309 134

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including

Magdalene Islands

Not more than 450 Bbls. (Four Hundred & fifty)

Average value of Vessels each..... \$7500.00

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c

\$1500.00 for Bay Trips or Bank

Trips each

Average value of Insurance..... 9% per annum on Vessel & outfits

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo

\$35.00 per month

Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$100.00

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,

including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

\$30,000. yearly

Number of Vessels lost..... Nine

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits Averaging \$8000.00

Value of Fish lost \$1000.00 each

Number of Lives lost..... Seventy five

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.

Seventy five cts all kinds

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per

bbl Two Dollars

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores ... Not any
 Total value of Mackerel do \$900.00 (nine Hundred Dollars)
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel... \$16.00 \$12.00 & 8.00
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... 12.00 8.00 & 6.00
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year... from \$200 to \$300.
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies \$400. per Vessel. yearly
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... \$6600.00 yearly
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... about \$200. yearly
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... about \$500 yearly
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georges, Grand Banks also Western Bank

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Capes of Virginia to Bay of Chaleur

Autual value of Fish in the water, before taking

Worth nothing in the water, value in the labor and capital

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.... the same as fish
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries We were once largely engaged in Mackerel fishery in Bay of St Lawrence but this is now unprofitable owing to poor quality & decrease in quantity of the Mack'l of late years All vessels sent there of late years returning largely in debt. Our vessels now being employed on the banks for fish and on our shores for mack'l using seines entirely instead of Hooks for Mackl—and trawls mostly for fish

ANDREW LEIGHTON }
 WALTER M. FALT } LEIGHTON & CO.
 GEORGE A. UPTON }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this first day of June 1877
 (Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 72.

This is to certify that the undersigned, composing the firm of late Dodd & Tarr now James G Tarr & Bro have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twenty five years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....Twelve
 No. of Trips madeSix trips yearly, to each Vessel, 72
 1871 1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence 4 2 4 3 0 3 total 16

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence

1871 1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

1287^{bls} 888^{bls} 672^{bls} 1124^{bls} 0 190^{bls} Total 4,161.

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands about one-tenth, (Most caught off shore)

Average value of Vessels each five Thousand Dollars

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c... \$2,500 per year for each Vessel

Average value of Insurance..... \$3,500

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.

Capt \$75 Crew \$35 per Month

Average value of Commissions, &c..... 200 yearly each Vessel

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

(\$31,000) Thirty one thousand Dollars .yearly.

Number of Vessels lost Four
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits \$28,500
 Value of Fish lost \$3,000
 Number of Lives lost thirty one
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt. One Dollar
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl. two Dollars
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores
 Total value of Mackerel do. None taken
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel No 1 2 3
 \$16, 12, 8
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel No 1 2 3
 12 8 6
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year. \$215 for past 6 years
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies. \$5,000 yearly total in six years \$30,000
 Amount paid to British fishermen
 for herring. \$4,100 yearly " " " " \$24,600
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages. hired none
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs. \$1780
 Locations frequented by American
 vessels for Fish. Gd Bank Georges Browns Lehave Bradelle &c
 Locations frequented by American
 vessels for Mackerel. from Sandy Hook to Bay St Lawrence
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking. Nothing. as raw material valueless
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken. " " " " " "
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries During the last four years Mackerel in the Bay of St Lawrence have been comparatively scarce. Seines have gradually been introduced until at present time hook fishing is nearly obsolete. Seine fishing in the Bay of St Lawrence & Chaleur is not practical and has proved a thorough failure and the business has been abandoned The Mackerel fishery is confined to the American coast The Bay Codfishery has been given up for years not a dozen trips has been made from this port within six years We depend upon the deep sea Banks entirely for Habbut & Codfish and employ the British shore boats and fishermen in taking Herring and pay them their price

DAVID TARR
 JAMES G. TARR

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877
 (Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
 Notary Public

No. 73.

This is to certify, that the undersigned, composing the firm of Smith & Golt have been engaged in the fishing business for the past 10 years, at Gloucester Mass. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	.....	Fifteen
No. of Trips made	.....	Six to each vessel yearly
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876	

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	4	5	5	4	3
	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	1000	1000	750	600	300
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	most caught around the Magdalene Islands.				
Average value of Vessels each	\$7000				
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$3000				
Average value of Insurance	9% on vessels and outfits				
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$35				
Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$200 each vessel				
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.	\$35,000				
Number of Vessels lost	1				
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$10,000				
Value of Fish lost					
Number of Lives lost	10				
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	50c				
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	\$1.00				
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.	none				
Total value of Mackerel do.	none				
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	\$16	\$12	\$8		
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	\$11	\$8	\$6		
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.	\$250				
Average amount paid in British ports for Bait, ice, and various supplies.	\$200 each vessel				
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.	\$400 yearly				
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.	\$200 year				
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	none				
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Grand Banks, La Have, Georges				
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	Cape May to Bay St. Lawrence				
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	nothing				
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	nothing				

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

The fisheries have changed from hook and line fishing to trawl fishing, and from line fishing to seining for Mackerel. We have thoroughly tested the St. Lawrence fishery, and find it is a failure, our vessels not paying their expenses. We shall send no vessels there this year. Our codfishing is pursued outside of the jurisdiction of any nation, on the ocean banks,

ADDISON GOLT JR. SYLVANUS SMITH
SMITH & GOLT

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 74.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Clark & Somes have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty

years, at Gloucester Mass., and that since the Washington Treaty, as called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....Eleven
No. of Trips made.....[55 yearly] Five each vessel yearly

No. of Trips to Bay of St. Lawrence.....	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	4	4	2	0	1
	1872	1873	1874	1875	

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	812	680	300	0	60
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No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands....None of any consequence; not one tenth

Average value of Vessels each.....Six thousand Dollars

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....\$2,500

Average value of Insurance.....9 pr ct on Vessel & outfits

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. . . \$40

Average value of Commissions, &c.....\$250 each vessel

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore. \$30,000

Number of Vessels lost

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....50 cts

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....\$1.50

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....None

Total value of Mackerel do.....\$360

	No 1	No 2	No 3
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel..	\$16	\$12	\$5
	No 1	No 2	No 3

Average market value of Bay Mackerel	\$11	\$7	\$5
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Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....\$250

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....\$3000 yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....\$2500 "

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....

Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Banks Georges Western Bks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Gulf St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries We have formerly sent vessels to the Bay of St Lawrence from one third to $\frac{1}{2}$ of our fleet, but the constant reduction in quantity and quality of the mackerel has rendered that fishery not only unprofitable but absolutely ruinous to continue in it. Our shore mackerel are worth more money are more readily taken are in better condition. Our system of seining cannot be applied in the Bay of St Lawrence as in shoal water the rocky bottom breaks the seine, and in deep water the Herring fill the seine and sink carrying the Mackerel with them. Our vessels enter British Waters only to purchase supplies Ice Bait &c for which we pay cash

JOHN E SOMES
GEORGE CLARK JR

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 26th day of July 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 75.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of J F Munson & Company have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twenty-five years, at Gloucester Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed	(Ten) (10)				
No. of Trips made.....	Six trips yearly each vessel				
	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	3	2	2	1	0
	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay					
St. Lawrence	500	450	510	120	0
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including					
Magdalene Islands.....	all caught at Magdalens				
Average value of Vessels each	\$5,000				
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$1,000 for Bay trip \$600 for Georges Banks				
Average value of Insurance	9 per ct on Vessel & Outfits				
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....	\$35				
Average value of Commissions, &c	400 each vessel				
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,	including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore. 26,000				
Number of Vessels lost	2				
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$15,000				
Value of Fish lost					
Number of Lives lost	12				
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt. 75					
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per					
bbl	200				
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..	nothing				
Total value of Mackerel do	"				
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	16, 12, 8				
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	11 7 5				
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$250				
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-	plies.....\$2000 yearly				
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..	6000 yearly last five years				
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	—				
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	—				
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish					
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel					
Actual value of fish in the water, before taking ..	nothing				
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	nothing				
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-					
eries					

Trawls have taken the place of hand-lines for fish and Seines are mostly used for Mackerel. Shore off the coast of the U States mackereling is more profitable than any other shorter trips & better Mackerel The Vessels we have sent to the Bay of St Lawrence have not paid their expenses We should have difficulty in shipping a crew for the Bay We consider that fishery an entire failure The quality of the

Mackerell and the great expense of the Bay trips makes it impossible to do any fishing there. None of our vessels use the inshore fisheries of the Dominion

JOHN F. WOSSON & CO
JOHN F. WOSSON
FREDERIC G. WOSSON
ROGER, W. WOSSON
FRANKLIN A. WOSSON.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 76.

STATEMENT OF A. G. PROCTER, OF PROCTER, TRASK & CO.
WHOLESALE FISH DEALERS, GLOUCESTER MASSACHU-
SETTS.

In the way of information touching the value of Fish taken in English waters, I would state that our firm is extensively engaged in the purchase of Herrings and Mackerel along the shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Magdalen Islands and New Foundland. That we have purchased of the British fishermen along these shores, during the past Eighteen months, about Twenty thousand (20,000) barrels of Herrings: That we pay for the Herrings—delivered to our vessels at the Magdalen Islands by the British fishermen—Six (6) cents per barrel. These Herrings are caught in their own seines, and delivered from their own boats; and six (6) cents per barrel is the regular price charged for for the fish so delivered during the season. That for the Herrings caught on the upper shores and along Anticosti Island we pay on an average Ten (10) cents per barrel. One cargo received by us during the past month, consisting of Eighteen hundred (1800) barrels, cost in gold One hundred eighty two (\$182) Dollars. This was the actual cost of the Herrings delivered, *fresh*, on the deck of our vessel, and includes the use of the seines, nets and boats of the English fishermen and their labor in securing and delivering. That the average cost of the New Foundland Herring taken at Fortune Bay, Boone Bay and Bay of Islands delivered to our vessels, *fresh*—is Fifty (50) cents per barrel. This class of Herrings are all caught in *nets*, which method increases the cost. The nets used cost about Twelve (12) Dollars each, and they will average to wear only about two seasons; the price mentioned includes all wear and tear of nets and gear, use of boats and labor in delivering. Some of these Herrings are brought from thirty to forty miles in boats to be delivered to our vessels. In all the Herring fisheries, as far as our actual experience goes, in the British waters, my judgment is, that the cost to us of the product as delivered to our vessels is not more than equal to the value of the labor actually expended in securing and delivering them, including the cost and wear and tear of the material used.

For *Mackerel* caught in British waters, along the shores mentioned, we pay from Three (3) to Four (4) Dollars per barrel. This is for mackerel delivered ready for packing from their boats, and includes the use of expensive gear, cost of splitting and labor, and cost of delivering.

The abundance of Mackerel on our own shore for the past four or five years; their superior quality and low price has made it more profitable for us to purchase mackerel caught on our own shore, than those caught

in English waters; even at the low price at which the English fish were offered. We buy and dispose of \$350,000. worth of fish yearly.

A G PROCTER

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER July 28th 1877

Then personally appeared the above named Addison G. Procter and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief. Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 77.

I Aaron Smith Master of the schooner Cora E Smith I was born in North Haven, Maine do depose & say That I started from Gloucester on the 25th of April 1877 for a Mackerel voyage off Block Island was absent one Month and took 200 Barrels Mackerel with seine. all No 3 and worth Six Dollars per Bbl On the 8th of June 1877 started on a trip for shore Mackerel and took 160 Bbls at round Pond State of Maine These Mackerel were taken within 10 rods of the shore Most of these Mackerel were No 2 and brought 12 dollars per Bbl on an average. I have been 20 years engaged in fishing for Mackerel have been eleven seasons in the Bay of St Lawrence never done so well there as on our own shores. I have assisted in taking over 3500 Barrels of Mackerel in the Gulf of St Lawrence and of that amount not 200 Barrels were taken within 3 miles of the shore and so far as I know the same proportion will hold in the catch of other American Vessels. Ten years ago when we depended on the Hook fishing the Gulf of St Lawrence Mackerel fishery could be pursued to advantage but since the introduction of seines it cannot be pursued profitably

AARON SMITH

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX } SS.

GLOUCESTER Aug. 13th 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Aaron Smith and made oath that the above statement by him subscribed is true. Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

Also appeared Jerome B. Thomas one of the Crew of Schooner Cora E. Smith who on oath, deposes and says that the above statement by Aaron Smith Master is true. he also deposes and says that he was Master of Sch. David Brown Jr. in 1869 & 1870 and prosecuted the Mackerel Fishery in the Bay of St. Lawrence that I did so poorly that I left fishing as an occupation for several years and consider that Mackerel Fishing with Seines on American Shores more profitable than the Bay fishing. My residence is North Haven in State of Maine.

JEROME B THOMAS

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX } SS.

GLOUCESTER Aug 13. 1877

Then personally appeared the above named Jerome B. Thomas and made oath that the above statement by him subscribed is true. Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 78.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of E. Burrill & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past 14 years, at Newburyport Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....Six,
No. of Trips made

Averaging from four to Six Trips yearly to Bay and home Fishing

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	4.	4.	4.	3.	none.
	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay
St. Lawrence.....1000 960 758. 555. none

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, including
Magdalene Islands

560 Bbls. or about that, including Magdalene Islands

Average value of Vessels each.....7000

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....For Bay trip say 10000

Average value of Insurance.....9 pr ct on schooners and outfits.

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo

say Per Mo 550.

Average value of Commissions, &c.....2500

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

say 12000

Numbers of Vessels lostone. (say 12000)

Value of Vessels lost, including outfitssay 75000

Value of Fish lost.....say 30000

Number of Lives lost.....none

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per
cwt

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per
bbl.....Two dollars

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores, not any

Total value of Mackerel do.....\$1120. including Magdalene Isls

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel168 12 80

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....128 88 00

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

from 1400 to 2500

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-
plies.....say 4000 yearly.

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

according to damages by gales.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

from Capes of Virginia to Bay Chaleur

Actual value of Fish in the water, before
taking

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, be-
fore taken

worth nothing in the water
Value being in the Labor
& Capital.

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

Our vessels. have always been in the Mackerel fishery, and were

formerly employed in the Bay of St Lawrence, but for the last few years, owing to the small catch, and poor quality of the Fish, have been obliged to fish upon the American shore, using seines. We did send for two years seines in the Bay of St Lawrence, but they were never used there, and were put on shore and kept until the vessels returned home in the Fall, making to us, an expense, for which we had no equivalent.

E. BURRILL.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this eighteenth day of May 1877
(Seal.)

E. F. BARTLETT

Notary Public

No. 79.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of I. H Boardman and T. H Boardman & Co. have been engaged in the fishing business for the past forty years, at Newburyport, Mass—and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	average 5 yearly
No. of Trips made.....	averaging 5 to each vessel yearly
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	12 9 5 — 2 — 2
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	3100 1756 1240 470 235
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	not exceeding 400 Bbls
Average value of Vessels each	\$8500
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	\$1200.
Average value of Insurance	9 pr ct for vessel, yearly
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....	\$40.
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$300
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors, and labor on shore	say \$14,000 yearly
Number of Vessels lost	None
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	Nothing
Value of Fish lost.....	None
Number of Lives lost.....	two
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.....	Seventy-five cents
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	one dollar & fifty cents
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	None
Total value of Mackerel do	\$600.
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	\$16 \$12 \$8
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	\$11. \$6. \$5.
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	from \$150 to \$300
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	about \$350 pr vessel yearly
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	\$3000 yearly
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	\$900. yearly
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	\$400 yearly average
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish Georges, Grand Banks Western Banks Labrador & Newfoundland Coasts	

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

from Cape Henry to Bay Chaleur.

Actual value of Fish in the water before taking. . . . nothing whatever

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken. . . . same value

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Many years ago, we were largely interested in the Mackerel Fisheries owning quite a fleet of vessels and which were largely employed in the Bay of St Lawrence fisheries: of late years owing to the scarcity of Fish in those waters, & the poorer quality of them, we have gradually abandoned the Fishing grounds there, and have employed our vessels on our own Shores in Hook Fishing, but mostly with Seines, at the present season we shall not send a single vessel to the Bay of St Lawrence for the catching of Mackerel, for our vessels in those waters have not, of late, paid their expenses, the two vessels employed by us the past season in the Bay of St. Lawrence, with large crews and employed during the whole season, landing only 165 & 70 Bbls. respectively.

ISAAC H BOARDMAN for

T. H BOARDMAN & CO.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this twenty ninth day of May 1877

[Seal.]

E. F. BARTLETT,

Notary Public

As to the liberty conceded by the "Treaty of Washington" to the American Fishermen, to take Fish within three miles of the shores of the Provinces, it is, practically, of little value, inasmuch as most of their Mackerel are taken by our Fishermen outside of that line, and in our opinion, the liberty so granted, is much more than overbalanced by allowing the Provinces to import Fish of all descriptions into the markets of the United States, free of duties, thus competing successfully with our own Fishermen, together with the right to fish on our shores for Mackerel, (in which occupation they now are employed in seining on our Southern Coast,) together with all other kinds of Fish including Bait, on which the Province Fishermen in a great measure depend for their supply from the United States.—In my opinion, (and I speak now from an experience of more than forty years,) and that of many American Fishermen and owners of Fishing vessels with whom I have conversed, the Provinces have by far, in a pecuniary point of view, an overwhelming advantage already by the terms of the Treaty. In fact, the concession made to our Fishermen is of little pecuniary value, the only real benefit is, the avoiding of conflicts between the American Fishermen and the armed Cruisers of the Provinces, by the former fishing on or near an imaginary line, and by the seizure and condemnation of American vessels in some instances, solely by the preponderance in numbers of evidence by the larger crews of the cruisers, which have heretofore been fitted out and maintained at a large expence to the Provincial or British Governments, and thus creating trouble and hostile feeling between the contending parties, and the people of both nations.—

I. H. BOARDMAN

Newburyport Mass. May. 1877.

No. 80.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Ireland & Trefethen have been engaged in the fishing business for the past

Twenty three years, at Newburyport and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Three				
No. of Trips made.....	Six yearly to each vessel				
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872
	1	1	1	1	1
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872
	200	240	360	250	265
No. of Barrels of Mackerell caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	Caught all off Magdelens				
Average value of Vessels each.....	3000				
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	1000 Dollars for 6 mos				
Average value of Insurance.....	9 per ct on Vessel & Outfits				
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.....	30 Dollars				
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200 each vessel				
Average value of Wharves, Fish-house, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$5000				
Number of Vessels lost.....	one				
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$3000				
Value of Fish lost					
Number of Lives lost					
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.					
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per bbl.					
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores ...	None				
Total value of Mackerel do.....	None				
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	\$16	\$12	\$8		
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	\$12	\$8	\$6		
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$125, 6 Mos				
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies					
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring					
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages					
Amount paid in British ports for repairs					
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish..	Georges & Lahave				
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel.....	Cape May to Bay St Lawrence				
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	Nothing				
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	Nothing				
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries					

We have had vessels in the Bay of St Lawrence for past 12 years. We have now changed our business to Bank fisheries for Cod & Haddock as the Bay of St Lawrence has proved a failure our vessels not paying us any profit. One of our firm has personally been in this Bay fishery and in one of our vessels. The inshore fisheries of the Dominion is entirely useless to us.

GEORGE W TREFETHEN
for the firm

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this eighteenth day of May 1877
[Seal.]

E. F. BARTLETT
Notary Public

No. 81.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of R. Bayley & Son have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Forty years, at Newburyport and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....	Two (2) Mackerel One Labrador
No of Trips made.....	Four " Two "
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	Four
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	Seven hundred
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	Quantity unknown, very few if any
Average value of vessels each	Thirty five hundred dolls
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	Thirty-two hundred dolls.
Average value of Insurance,	

Four and one quarter pr. cent a year for six months.

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.,
Capt \$75. Crew \$28 Each

Average value of Commissions, &c.

Two hund & fifty dolls ea. vessel ea. year

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Ten thousand dolls.

Number of Vessels lost.....One

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits..... Ten thousand dolls

Value of Fish lost.....Eight thousand dolls.

Number of Lives lost.....None

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
bbl.

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores

No fish, cannot estimate Mack.

Total value of Mackerel do.

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

Eleven & a quarer dolls pr. bbl.

Average market value of Bay Mackerel. Seven & one half dolls. pr. bbl.

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

Two hundred & fifty dolls.

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....

Two hundred dolls

Amount paid to British fishermen for Herring

Two thousand dolls

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.

Fourteen Hundred dolls.

Amount paid in British ports for repairs.

Two hundred & fifty dolls

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Gulf & Bay of St Lawrence and Labrador Coast

Locations frequented by American vessels for mackerel

Cape Henry to Eastport Me.

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-

eries

We have employed our vessels in the Shore, Bay of St Lawrence and

Labrador fisheries during the past ten years and the business has

proved so unremunerative and hazardous that we have abandoned it.

The Labrador fishery we consider very uncertain business and the risk very great more especially when the vessels are compeled to stay late in the fall, as is the case most of the time in latter years, in order to fill up if possible with herring, which have to be procured of the resident fishermen

R. BAYLEY & SON

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty third day of May 1877

J. T. BROWN
Notary Public.

(Seal.)

No. 82.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Charles O. Currier have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Nine years, at Newburyport, Mass. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed	Six
No. of Trips made	
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	42
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	8000
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalen Islands	Not Known
Average value of Vessels each	\$4000
Average value of outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$1500
Average value of Insurance	\$4000
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$35 pr month
Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$250 pr year each Vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$8000
Number of Vessels lost	
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	\$1,00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	0
Total value of Mackerel do.	0
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
N ^o 1	\$17.00
N ^o 2	\$11.50
N ^o 2	\$8.00
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	
N ^o 1.	\$11.00
N ^o 2	\$7.00
N ^o 3	\$5.50
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$200
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	\$75 pr vessel
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	\$30.00 pr year pr vessel
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
From Cape May to Gd Menan & Bay St. Lawrence	
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

On account of the uncertainty of the Bay fishing, most of the Newburyport Vessels gave up that fishing about twelve years ago, and engaged in the coast fishing, using Seines instead of hook and lines, doing a fair business, while those who continued the Bay Mackerelling, have made a losing business, and will mostly give up, and enter the Shore fishing

CHAS. O. CURRIER

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this twenty-first day of May 1877

(Seal.)

E. F. BARTLETT

Notary Public

No. 83.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Union Wharf Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Thirty years, at Provincetown Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Seventeen
No. of Trips made.....	Sixty-Eight
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	Six since 1871
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	

Twelve hundred bbls

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	None
---	------

Average value of Vessels each.....	Five Thousand dollars
------------------------------------	-----------------------

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	One thousand dollars
---	----------------------

Average value of Insurance.....	Four thousand dollars
---------------------------------	-----------------------

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	
--	--

Thirty dollars

Average value of Commissions, &c.....	Four % to Caps of Vessel
---------------------------------------	--------------------------

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	
--	--

Twenty five thousand dolls.

Number of Vessels lost.....	One
-----------------------------	-----

Value of vessels lost, including outfits.....	Five thousand dollars
---	-----------------------

Value of Fish lost.....	None
-------------------------	------

Number of lives Lost.....	None
---------------------------	------

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
--	--

One dollar

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	Two dollars
---	-------------

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores...	None
---	------

Total value of Mackerel do.....	None
---------------------------------	------

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	Ten dollars
--	-------------

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	Eight dollars pr bbl
---	----------------------

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	
--	--

Two hundred twenty five dollars

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
--	--

Fifty dollars

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	None
---	------

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	None
--	------

Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	One hundred dollars
---	---------------------

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georgies. Block Island. Eastern Shore

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Coast of United States & Gulf St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries Within the last three years we have had but two vessels engaged in Fishing in British Waters and they for Mackerel alone. The Mackerel fishing being done on the Coast of the United States to and along the Eastern Coast of Maine and on Georges Bank—not resorting to British Waters at all. The Gulf of St Lawrence Fishery is so unprofitable that we consider it a failure

E M DYER

B O GROSS

A. T. WILLIAMS.

LUTHER NICKERSON

} UNION WHF CO
W

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Eleventh day of May 1877

(Seal.)

THOS. HILLIARD

Notary Public

No. 84.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Central Wharf Co formerly R. E. & A. Nickerson & Co. & E. S. Smith & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twenty years, at Provincetown, Mass. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of vessels employed

Six to twelve (viz some years 6, other years up to twelve

No. of Trips made five to seven yearly to each Vessel

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence none since 1873

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence none since 1873

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including

Magdalene Islands any since 1873, but few inside of 3 miles ever

1873 150 Bbls

Average value of Vessels each Forty five hundred dollars

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c 2500\$ to each Vessel

Average value of Insurance \$250

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo

Captain 65.\$ Crew 28.\$

Average value of Commissions, &c 200\$ each Vessel

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,

including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore .. \$2000.

Number of Vessels lost one in 1873

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits \$7500.

Value of Fish lost \$800.

Number of Lives lost none

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt

one dollar on Codfish

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c.,

per bbl \$2.50

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores none

Total value of Mackerel do \$10. delivered at Provincetown 1873

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

No. 1s \$16. No 2 \$12. No. 3 \$8.

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

No 1. \$12. No 2. \$8. No 3. \$6. (our average in 1872. \$10.20

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

\$225 at our place

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies

\$250 each Vessel including wages paid their—(total for 9 Vessels would be 2250,\$

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring none

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages 100, \$ per-year

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

thus far small repairs, but liable to large in case of accident

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand, Western & Georges Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

from Cape May to Eastport, and Georges Banks

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking. Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

We have sent no Vessels into the Bay of St. Laurence for Mackerel since 1873 and only two for Codfish, The facts are we do find the fishing business, (more especially for Mackerel in the Bay of St Lawrence) *does not pay*, that is our experience and is the only reason that we have almost wholly discontinued sending our Vessels their, and than again Mackerel takeing their are not as Valuable as those taken on our Coast, the fishing grounds are far distant, bad weather sets in much earlier their than on our Coast, makeing it more hazardous, also as most of the Mackerel now are taken with Seines and we consider the Bay a very difficult place for Seining. We consider the fishing grounds in Bay of St. Laurence inside of three miles from Shore (especially for Mackerel) practically useless to us, and would not fit a Vessel under any consideration, looking to that locality for the success of their Voyage

CENTRAL WHARF CO by A. NICKERSON

ATKINS NICKERSON }

JAMES A. SMALL }

ABNER B. RICH }

NATHAN YOUNG }

Central Wharf Co.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ninth day of June A. D. 1877

(Seal.)

B. F. HUTCHINSON

Notary Public

No. 85.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of H & S Cook & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twenty five years, at Provincetown Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed..... Eight

No. of Trips made..... one trip yearly total Eight Trips

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence

One Trip in 1876 Cod Fishing (Failure)

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence None

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands..... None

Average value of Vessels each	Five Thousand dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$3,000 to each vessel
Average value of Insurance	\$248.00 each vessel
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$40) Forty Dollar
Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$50 Fifty "
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$12,000 Twelve Thousand Dollars
Number of vessels lost	Two
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$14,000 Fourteen Thousand Dollars
Value of Fish lost	\$12,000 Twelve Thousand Dollars
No. of Lives lost	Thirteen
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	75 cts Seventy five cents
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	None
Total value of Mackerel do.	None
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$200, 00
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	Nothing
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	\$600,00 Yearly
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	From Long Island to Newfoundland
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	

For the last fifteen years we have sent two vessels only to the Bay of St Lawrence Cod Fishing and both voyages proved a failure. for the past eight or ten years the fishing in the Bay St Lawrence has been of no profit to us for neither Cod or Mackerel Fishing, and the year of 1876 was nearly a Total failure. the Mackerel Fishing is carried on now by Seining and our vessels at Provincetown do better at fishing nearer home, our cod Fishermen do not fish in British limits, and it does not pay for our Mackerel Fishermen,

H & S COOK & CO

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Ninth day of May 1877
(Seal.)

THOS. HILLIARD
Notary Public

No. 86.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of F. M. Freeman have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Five years, at Provincetown Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Eight
No. of Trips made	Five
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	ten in five years cod fishing

AWARD OF THE FISHERY COMMISSION.

3155

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	none
Average value of Vessels each.....	\$4,000.
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$2000 Each vessell yearly
Average value of Insurance.....	\$150
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.....	\$35,00
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	100 Each vessell yearly
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.....	\$15,000
Number of Vessels lost.....	none
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	One
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....	\$1,00
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2,00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....	none
Total value of Mackerel do.....	none

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	No 1	No 2	No 3
	\$16,	\$12,	\$8,

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	No 1	No 2	No 3
	12,	\$8,	\$6,

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... \$200,

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies..... nothing

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... nothing

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... nothing

Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... nothing

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Western and Grand Bank Georges & Block Island

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

American Shores Bay St Laurence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

The Fisheries have changed from shore fishing to deep sea and Bank fishing a number of Vessels sent to Bay St Laurence from this port last year fishing on Bank Bradley on Orphen and did not pay expenses We do not use the British wortes in side of thre miles for any fisherys whatever

F M FREEMAN

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this ninth day of May 1877 Before the subscriber a Notary Public for the County of Barnstable
(Seal.) B F HUTCHINSON

Notary Public

No. 87.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Freeman and Hilliard have been engaged in the fishing business for the past

Twenty years, at Provincetown and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed
 No. of Trips made
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands
 Average value of Vessels each
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.
 Average value of Insurance
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.
 Average value of Commissions, &c.
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore
 Number of Vessels lost
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits
 Value of Fish lost
 Number of Lives lost
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores
 Total value of Mackerel do.
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

For eight years last past we have sent our fishing vessels, averaging seven in number to the Grand Banks. During this time have not sent a vessel to the Gulf of St. Lawrence for fishing purposes, from the fact that we have been unable to calculate upon any profit which might result from such voyages.

N. D. FREEMAN
 J. D. HILLIARD

FREEMAN & HILLIARD

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Eleventh day of May 1877
 (Seal.)

THOS. HILLIARD

Notary Public

No. 88.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Crocker & Atwood have been engaged in the fishing business for the past fourteen years, at Provincetown and that since the Washington

Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....	Five
No. of Trips made.....	about five trips each vessel yearly
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	None
Average value of Vessels each.....	Five Thousand Dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c...\$2500. on each vessel yearly	
Average value of Insurance.....	\$300. on " " "
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo...\$30. each man per month	
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$250. each vessel yearly
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore..\$3500. yearly	
Number of Vessels lost.....	Two
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$11,000.
Value of Fish lost.....	\$150.
Number of Lives lost.....	None
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt. \$1 ⁷⁵ / ₁₀₀	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl	\$2 ¹⁰ / ₁₀₀
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	None
Total value of Mackerel do.....	None
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	0
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	
Massachusetts Bay and Nantucket Shoals	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
American Shores north of Cape May.	
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	Valueless
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	do
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries	
Our vessels being engaged in the Mackerel Seining business almost exclusively and as they could not Seine fish in British Waters we were obliged to fish on the American coast.	

CROCKER & ATWOOD

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this ninth day of May 1877

B F HUTCHINSON

(Seal.)

Notary Public

No. 89.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of E & E K. Cook, having been engaged in the fishing business for the past Forty years, at Provincetown and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Seven
No. of Trips made	1
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	1876
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	100
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	none
Average value of Vessels each	\$5. 000,
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$800 trip—
Average value of Insurance	\$100 each vessel yearly
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$35
Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$200
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$6000—
Number of Vessels lost	Three
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$10,000
Value of Fish lost	\$8000.
Number of Lives lost	none.
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	1.00
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl	2.00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	none
Total value of Mackerel do	none
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
No. \$16. no 2. \$1 2 no 3. \$8 sold for	
Average market value of Bay Mackerel. sold for no 1. \$11. no 2. \$8.00	
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$200
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	none
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	none
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	none
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish .. Banks New found land Western & Georgies.	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel ... Long Island Sound to Bay St Lawrence	
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	

The Mackerel Fisheries have changed very much during the last ten years formerly the fish were caught with Line & Hook but now the universal way to take them is with Seins The Cod fisheries have also very materially changed the Cod fish were formerly taken with hand line & Hook but Trawls are now mostly used. Our Vessels all of them take their fish from the Banks of New Foundland we have tried the Bay fishing but with us it did not pay. Our Mackerel fishermen all of them fish in American Waters for the reason that the Bay fishing does not pay them. as the Mackerel are not near as plenty nor are they as good a quality as they can find nearer home

E. P. COOK

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this tenth day of May 1877
(Seal.)

THOS. HILLARD

Notary Public

No. 90.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of J & L N Paine have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Sixteen years, at Provincetown Mass. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed..... Seven

No. of Trips made..... One Trip yearly total Seven trips

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	none	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
		2	2	2	2	2	2

total 6 yrs 12 vessels.

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence none

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands none

Average value of Vessels each..... Four thousand dollars

Average of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... \$2000. to each vessel

Average value of Insurance..... \$240. each vessel

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.. \$35.

Average value of Commissions, &c \$50.

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore..... \$10,000

Number of Vessels lost..... none

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits..... none

Value of Fish lost none

Number of Lives lost..... one

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt 75 cts.

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores none

Total value of Mackerel do none

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... \$200.

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies \$200 each vessel \$400. yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... nothing

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages .. \$400. yearly

Amount paid in British ports for repairs \$100.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

From Long Island to Newfoundland including Bay of St Lawrence

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

For the past Sixteen years we have sent two vessels to Gulf of St Lawrence. their voyages have not been as remunerative as those of our vessels that have fished in other localities The last year 1876, the voyages in the Bay of St Lawrence were almost a total failure. No fish are taken by our vessels inside of British limits.

J & L N PAINE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this ninth day of May 1877 Before the Subscriber a Notary Public for the County of Barnstable

(Seal.)

B F HUTCHINSON

Notary Public

No. 91.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Philip A Whorf have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Seven years, at Provincetown Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Five
No. of Trips made	One average time five months
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	None
Average value of Vessels each	\$4,500
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..	\$2,000 yearly pr each vessel
Average Insurance....	On each vessel \$1500, Outfits insured for full amount
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo...	\$35,00
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$100, Each vessel annually
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	.\$7,000,
Number of Vessels lost	None
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	One
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....	\$1,00
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2, 00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores...	00 None
Total value of Mackerel do	00 None
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel...	No 1 \$16, No 2s \$12, No 3s \$8.
Average market value of Bay Mackerel ...	No 1 \$12, No 2 \$8, No 3 \$6.
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$170.
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies	\$300.
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Western, and Grand Banks
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	American shores Bay St Lawrence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	Nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	

In my experience Bay fishing in British waters has been very unprof-
itable and in many cases tended with loss both to owners and crews.
Our fishing consists largely of Western and Grand Bank fishing some
of the smaller vessels fishing around our own shores
Do not use the British waters inside of three miles

P A WHORF

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this ninth day of May 1877
(Seal.)

B F HUTCHINSON

Notary Public

No. 92.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of B. A. Lewis & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twelve years, at Provincetown and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	5
No. of Trips made.....	5 per year
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	none for 7 years
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	
Average value of Vessels each	\$3000.00
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$2500.00 per year
Average value of Insurance.....	\$400.00 " "
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. .	\$35.00
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$250.00 per year
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.	\$8000.00
Number of Vessels lost.....	None
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost.....	One
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	
Total value of Mackerel do.	
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish.....	Grand Banks
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	
Untill within 7 or 8 years we sent vessels in St Lawrence bay for Mackerel, Our experience was that vessels that went there done nothing. could not pay their expences, So we sent our vessels seining off our own shores and found they done much better, This is the experience of all who sent vessels for Mackerel in the bay from Provincetown	

B. A. LEWIS

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this tenth day of May 1877

(Seal.)

THOS. HILLIARD

Notary Public

No. 93.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of David Conwell have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty six years, at Provincetown Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed Seven
 No. of Trips made one Trip a year
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence none
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence none
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands none
 Average value of Vessels each Forty five Hundred dollars
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c. Two Thousand dollars each Sch'r
 Average value of Insurance Two hundred dollars each vessels
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo .. \$35
 Average value of Commissions, &c

One Hundred Twenty dollars each Sch'r
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Fifteen thousand dollars yearly
 Number of Vessels lost none
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits "
 Value of Fish lost "
 Number of Lives lost "
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt \$1,00
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl \$2,00
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores... none
 Total value of Mackerel do "
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

I sold for \$14,50, \$9 & \$6
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel had none
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year. \$150,00 at my place
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Banks La Have & Western Bank
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 Cape May to Sidney C. B.
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

In regard to Fishing in British waters for the past Seven years it has not (in general) been profitable, Codfish have been plentier nearer home and the prices for new fish being better than for fish salted a longer time. I have keep my Vessels on the home grounds and Grand Bank, I have sent no vessels to the Bay of St Lawerance this seven years. neather have my Vessels taken Codfish or mackeral inside the precribed British limets

DAVID CONWELL

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this tenth day of May 1877
 (Seal.)

THOS. HILLIARD,
 Notary Public.

No. 94.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Central Wharf Company have been engaged in the fishing business for the

past Thirteen years, at Wellfleet and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows.

No. of Vessels employed Thirteen 13
No. of Trips made 4 to Each vessel yearly

1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence 0 4 0 1 1

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.... 450 75 45

1873 1875 1876

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
Magdalene Islands..... all caught at Magdeline

Average value of Vessels each \$55.00

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... \$2400.

Average value of Insurance..... 711 Ea vessel

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo

\$35. Pr Month

Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$200. to Each vessel

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,

including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore. \$15.000

Number of Vessels lost one vessel at Bay St. Lawrence

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits..... \$7,900.

Value of Fish lost..... \$2000.

Number of Lives lost..... One.

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per

cwt..... 75 cts \$2.00

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per

bbl..... \$2.00

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.. None

Total value of Mackerel do..... None

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.... 16.00 12.00 8.00

Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... 12.00. 8.00. 6.00

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

\$125.00 at our place

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-
plies..... Nothing

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... Nothing

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... None

Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... None

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Banks & Georges

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Cape May to Mt. Desert

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

For the past ten years fishing in British waters has been unprofitable. We confine our business to American waters entirely now. We could not procure an american crew to fish in Bay of St Lawrence. The ves- sels that have been sent there have made an entire failure and great loss to their owners & fitters. Our business is strictly confined to Mack- erel fishing. Our Shore Mackerel are of much better quality & bring much larger prices than the bay Mackerel.

STEPHEN YOUNG agt Cent Whf Co

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 10 day of May 1877

(Seal.)

THOMAS KEMP

Notary Public

No. 95.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Commercial Wharf Co. have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty five years, at Wellfleet and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Fifteen
No. of Trips made.....	Four Ea. vessel
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	None since 1872.
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St Lawrence.....	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore not including Magdalene Islands.....	None
Average value of Vessels each	\$6500. Ea
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$2000. ach vessel
Average value of Insurance.....	\$765 ach vessel
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo..	\$35. Ea
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200.
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore..	\$13,000
Number of Vessels lost.....	None
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	None
Value of Fish lost.....	None
Number of lives lost.....	None
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....	75 cts
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting salting &c., per bbl.....	\$2.00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	None
Total value of Mackerel do.....	None
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel....	16.00 12.00 8.00
Average market value of Bay Mackerel ..	12. 8. 6
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$125,
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....	None
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	None
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	None
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	None
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	

Grand Bank & Georges

Location frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape Hery & Mt. Dessert

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

By reasons of entire change in mode of Catching Mackerel, Viz from Hook and line to Seine, The Mackl fishing in the Bay of St Lawrence is not prosecuted by our fishermen the waters of the Gulf are not Calculated for Seining owing to shallowness and tendency of the fish to frequent the shores, which entirely precludes the possibillity of taking them in quantities

NOAH SWETT

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 14th day of May 1877
(Seal.)

THOS KEMP

Notary Public

No. 96.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Mercantile Wharf Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Seven years, at Wellfleet and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Twenty (20)				
No. of Trips made.....	4 to Each vessel yearly				
	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence....	0 trips	4	0	0	0
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	800 Bbl				
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	None	caught near Magdalin Islands			
Average value of Vessels each.....	\$6500,				
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$2500, Each				
Average value of Insurance.....	\$800, Each vessel				
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. .	\$35,				
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200 Each vessel				
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.	\$48,000				
Number of Vessels lost.....	One				
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$9,000				
Value of Fish lost.....	None				
Number of Lives lost.....	None				
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.....	75 cts				
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2.00				
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	Nothing				
Total value of Mackerel do.....	Nothing				
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel....	16.00	12.00	8.00		
	1	2	3		
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	12.00	8.00	6.00		
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$150.				
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies	\$200 since the Treaty				
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	Nothing				
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	Nothing				
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	None				
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish					

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Cape May to Mt. Desert

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... Nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

We have sent no vessels to Bay of St. Lawrence since 1873, that year we sent four, they did not pay expenses. We lost money on every vessel. Since that time knowing that the business in Bay of St. Lawrence could not prove profitable we have confined our fishing business entirely to the American waters. The shore Mackerel being of better quality, bring better prices & we take them with *Seines*, seldom using hook & Lines.

We do not in future propose to use English waters for our fishing business. We could not ship an American crew for such a purpose.

JESSE H. FREEMAN

Agnt Mercantile Wharf Co

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 9th day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

THOMAS KEMP

Notary Public

No. 97.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Henry Nickerson have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Eight years, at Dennisport and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels having been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed	Six 6.
No. of Trips made	Five
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	none none
Average value of Vessels each	\$6000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	\$2500
Average value of Insurance	\$625. to Each vessel
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. .	\$40.
Average value of Commissions, &c	\$250. to Each vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-house, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.	\$12. 000
Number of Vessels lost	
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	\$2.50
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores...	none
Total value of Mackerel do	none
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.	\$16.00 \$12.00 \$8.00
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	none
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year ..	\$150. at our place
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	nothing
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	nothing
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	nothing
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	nothing
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	

Grand Bank & Georges

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Mount Desert

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.... nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

For the past Eight years I confine my business to American waters entirely.

HENRY NICKERSON

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Eleventh day of May 1877

(Seal.)

SAMUEL S BAKER Notary Public.

No. 98.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Nelson & Harlow have been engaged in the fishing business for the past 25 years, at Plymouth and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	4.
No. of Trips made	
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	
Average value of Vessels each.....	\$3000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	1550 for each Vessel
Average value of Insurance.....	2000
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	\$35 to 40 per month
Average value of Commissions, &c.	
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore....	\$5500
Number of Vessels lost	None
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	None
Number of Lives lost	None
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	None
Total value of Mackerel do.....	None
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	\$3500
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies.....	\$650 per year
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	350
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	in 6 years 20,000
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	5.50
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	
	Banks of Newfoundland
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
	Chiefly on our own Coast & Banks
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	
The Vessels from this place are with one or two exceptions wholly en- gaged in Codfishing and their fishing grounds are the Banks of New- foundland they resort to the Port in the Br Provinces for Bait and some articles for supplies, a large portion of the crews are Br subjects and in many cases the entire crews are from Nova Scotia.	
No Fish from this port are caught in Br Waters and We do not con- sider there is any so valuable fishing grounds in their waters for Cod as the Banks of Newfoundland or any fishing ground for Mackerel as on our own Coast and we never send vessels in the waters there or should wish to.	

WILLIAM H. NELSON.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this eleventh day of May 1877.
(Seal.)

ARTHUR LOW
Notary Public

No. 99.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Manter & Blackmer have been engaged in the fishing business for the past fifteen years, at Plymouth Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Four (4)
No. of Trips made	1 Yearly to each vessel
No. of Trips to Bay St Lawrence	
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	
Average value of Vessels each	\$2,500
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c....	\$1,200 yearly to each vessel
Average value of Insurance	\$100 to each vessel
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	\$35 pr month
Average value of Commissions, &c	\$80 pr vessel each year
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c for curing and packing, in- cluding expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$7,000 yearly
Number of Vessels lost	
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.	\$1.00
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	
Total value of Mackerel do.	
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$200.
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	\$500, yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish...Grand-Bank,
Georgies, Quero, St Peters and all banks bordering on Gulf Stream

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Cape Henry to Newfoundland

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... No value

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken

Facts as to change in location and mode of conducting American Fish-
eries

In former years we used to send our vessels to the Bay of St. Law-
rence: but not finding it successful we send now to deep water banks:
such as Grand, Georgies & Quero banks.

MANTER & BLACKMER

By PRINCE MANTER

Sworn & subscribed, to before me, this sixteenth day of May 1877
(Seal.)

ARTHUR LOW Notary Public

No. 100.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Abraham H. Tower, have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Fifty years, at Cohasset, Mass. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed..... Five
 No. of Trips made..... Six yearly, in all 30
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence..... None
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence..... None
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
 Magdalene Islands

Average value of Vessels each..... Four thousand dollars.
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.. Twenty five hundred dollars.
 Average value of Insurance.... Two hundred & fifty dollars per Vessel.
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo

Thirty dollars

Average value of Commissions, &c.... Two hundred dollars per Vessel.
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
 including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Five thousand dollars.

Number of Vessels lost..... None—

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits..... 0—

Value of Fish lost..... 0—

Number of Lives lost..... None.

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl two dollars

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores

Nothing, none taken

Total value of Mackerel do..... “ “

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

Eight dollars per Barrel

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

One hundred & fifty dollars.

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies..... Nothing

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... “

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... “

Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... “

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Locations frequented by American vessel for Mackerel

Capes Delaware to Mount Desert.

Actual value of fish in the water, before taking

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

For the last seven or Eight years our Mackerel fishermen have been limited to the catch off the American Coast, owing to the Bay of St Lawrence fishery being so very uncertain, as to offer no encouragement to go there—My vessels have not been there during that period—

ABRAHAM H TOWER

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Eighth day of May 1877

J Q A LOTHROP

Justice of the Peace

No. 101.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of John Bates has been engaged in fishing business for the past Thirtyfive years, at Cohasset Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed	Seven
No. of Trips made.....	Six yearly in all 42
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	
Average value of Vessels each.....	Five thousand dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	Three thousand dollars
Average value of Insurance	
	Three hundred dollars yearly for each vessel
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	
	Thirty dollars
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200 pr vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore..	\$7000.
Number of Vessels lost.....	one
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$5000
Value of Fsh lost	
Number of Lives lost.....	none
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	two dollars pr Barrel
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..	nothing
Total value of Mackerel do	no receipts
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
	eight dollars pr Barrel

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

one hundred & fifty dollars

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....

Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape Henlopen to Mount Desert

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

For the last seven years mackerel have been so scarce and uncertain in the Bay of Saint Lawrence I have been obliged to abandon the fishery in those waters

JOHN BATES

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Seventh day of May 1877

J. Q. A. LOTHROP

Justice of the Peace

No. 102.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Baker & Ellis have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty Five years, at Dennisport, Mass—and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed	Ten
No. of Trips made.....	Six trips each yearly total 60 trips
No. of trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	none none
Average value of Vessels each..	Six Thousand Dollars each "average"
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	Three Thousand " " "

Average value of Insurance	Four Hundred Dollars each
Average Value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	\$40. per month

Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200. Each
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Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	Fourteen Thousand Dollars—
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Number of Vessels lost	none
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Value of Vessels lost, including outfits

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	Fifty cts. pr cwt
---	-------------------

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	two Dollars —
--	---------------

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	none
--	------

Total value of Mackerel do.....	none
---------------------------------	------

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	16—10—8
--	---------

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	Two Hundred & Fifty
--	---------------------

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

	Nothing East of Mt Desert —
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Actual value of Fish in the water before taking.....	nothing
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Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

About 15. years ago we sent our last vessels to the Gulf of St Lawrence for fish the business being unprofitable, and vessels not paying expenses, since which time we have found it much to our advantage to fish on our own shores—it is impossible to get a native crew to go to the Gulf of St Lawrence fishing—one of our last trips there absent about 11 weeks only took twenty Bbls of fish valued less than two hundred Dollars seventeen men being employed—Seining has taken place of

Hand line fishing on our own coasts and we find that it is greatly to our advantage to fish nearer home. it being more advantageous. our own fish being worth more than those taken in British waters and much quicker sales and much more profitable business.

BAKER & ELLIS

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 21st day of May 1877

(Seal)

SAMUEL S. BAKER

Notary Public

No. 103.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Levi Eldridge have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty years, at South Chatham and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Eight	\$8
No. of Trips made.....	3 to Each vessel	
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876	
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	0 0 0 0 0	
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	none	
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	none	
Average value of Vessels each.....	\$5600.	
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$2500.	
Average value of Insurance.....	\$568 each vessel	
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	\$35 Pr Month	
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$175 to each vessel	
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore..	\$7.500.	
Number of Vessels lost.....	one vessel	
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$6500.	
Value of Fish lost.....	\$800	
Number of Lives lost.....	Three	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.	75c \$2.00	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2.00	
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	none	
Total value of Mackerel do.....	none	
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel..	\$16.00 12.00 8.00	
Average market value of Bay Mackerel		
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$130. each	
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies	nothing	
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	nothing	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	none	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	none	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish		

Western Bank Quereau & G. Bank

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

from Cape May to Mt. Desert

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing | |

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing | |

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

We think it is not profitable for us to send our vessels to fish in Brit-

ish waters—we confine our business to American waters entirely our business is confined strictly to Shore fishing as it pays us we think much better than Bay fishing would

LEVI ELDRIDGE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Eleventh day of May 1877
(Seal.)

SAMUEL S BAKER

Notary Public

No. 104.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of D. F. Weekes have been engaged in the fishing business for the past seven years, at So. Harwich and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	average of three per, year
No. of Trips made	2 to banks and six to S Mackerel
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	"
Average value of Vessels each	Five thousand dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	Two thousand "
Average value of Insurance	Six hundred "
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	forty dollars per Month
Average value of Commissions, &c.	Two hundred and Twenty five
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	Six Thousand dollars
Number of Vessels lost	Two
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	ten thousand dollars
Value of Fish lost	fifteen hundred "
Number of lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.	one dollar
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl	two dollars
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	none
Total value of Mackerel do.	none
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	\$16. \$12. \$8.00
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	none
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	about one hundred & fifty Dollars
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.	nothing
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	nothing
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
	1870 1871 1872
	\$800. \$660. \$1400. nothing since
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	nothing
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Grand bank Western & Georges
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	Cape May to Mt Desert
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

The Bay St. Lawrence fishing entirely abandoned by those engaged in the fishing business here and all confine themselves to the shore fishing & Georges Bank for mackerel as the greater outlay and long time used on the trips to the bay is so much that it is impossible carry on that fishing and from the present appearance of things our shore fishing will be in the hand of British hands as their cheaper vessels, and cheaper hire of crew's, and outfits enable them to place the fish in our markets at a rate to us disastrous

D. F. WEEKES

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this twelvth day of May 1877
(Seal.)

SAMUEL S BAKER

Notary Public

No. 105.

This is certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Caleb Small have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty seven years, at South Harwich Mass and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Five
No. of Trips made.....	one & two trips yearly to each vessel to the Banks 8 or 10 trips Shore mackerelling
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	none
Average value of Vessels each.....	Five Thousand dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	2500 to each vessel yearly
Average value of Insurance	\$200
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	
	Capt 70 Crews \$40 each
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200 each vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	
	\$12000 Twelve Thousands
Number of Vessels lost.....	none
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	none
Value of Fish lost.....	\$4000
Number of Lives lost.....	one
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
	one dollar
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2,00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....	none
Total value of Mackerel do	none
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
	no 1 \$16 no 2 \$12 no 3 \$7,50 cts
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	none caught
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$200
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
	years 1873 & 1874 \$500 each year nothing since
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	year 1873 \$1000
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages....	Average \$500 yearly—

Amount paid in British ports for repairs no
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish
 Western Bank Banquereau Bank Grand Bank
 Locations frequently by American vessels for Mackerel
 From Cape Henry to Mt Desert Bank
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Have sent no vessels to the Bay of St Laurence for the last eight years excepting one vessel to Boone Bay for a load of Herrings in 1873 It will not pay to send vessels to the Bay of St Laurence for mackerel the catch is so uncertain and expence so large It is a Bad place to seine fish on account of shallow water and foul Bottom The Cod fishery is an entirely Bank fishery owing no allegiance to any government The Western Bank Quereaw and Grand Bank being from 100 miles to 400 miles from any land

CALEB SMALL

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twelvth day of May 1877
 (Seal.)

SAMUEL. S. BAKER

Notary Public

No. 106.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Valentine Doane have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Thirty Eight years, at Harwich Port and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Seven
No. of Trips made..Cod fisherman 2 Trips Yearly mackl fishern 8 to 10	
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	none Since 1862 —
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	none
Average value of Vessels each.....	about 3,000 To .12000 dollar Each
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..	\$3000 To Each Vessel Yearly
Average value of Insurance	\$225
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	
	Captn \$68 Crews 30 Each
Average value of Commissions, &c	\$120
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	
	\$11000 Eleven Thousand
Number of Vessels lost	Four
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$1800 Each—Total \$19,200
Value of Fish lost	\$5,000
Number of Lives lost	Eleven—
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	
	\$1.50
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per bbl	1.80
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	none
Total value of Mackerel do	none
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	
	No 1. 17—No 10 No 3. 6.25

Average market value of Bay Mackerel None Caught
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... \$180
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies..... none
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring nothing
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages none
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... nothing
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

From Cape Charles to Mt Desert

Locations frequented by American ves-

sels for Mackerel..... " " " " "

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken "

Facts as to change in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

have Sent no vessels To Fish In British Waters for the Last fifteen Years our Fishing since 1862 has wholly been done In American Waters as no American crews Would go To Fish In Bayst Laurance or any British Waters those that have occasionally Tried made a failur and serious losses to owner & outfitters & crews—consequently our Fishing is wholly carried on In American Waters.

VALENTINE. DOANE

Sworn and subscribed to before me this Ninth day of May 1877

(Seal.)

SAMUEL S. BAKER

Notary Public

No. 107.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of T. B. Baker have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Eleven years, at Harwich Port and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed Five

No. of Trips made..... Six

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence None

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence..... None

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands..... None

Average value of vessels each..... Six Thousand Dollars

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.... Twenty five Hundred "

Average value of Insurance..... Two do fifty "

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo

Thirty dollars per mo

Average value of Commissions, &c.... Two Hundred Twenty five dollars

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Ten thousand dollars

Number of Vessels lost..... None

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits..... none

Value of Fish lost..... do

Number of Lives lost..... Two

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl Three dollars

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores

Total value of Mackerel do..... noe

	1s	2s	3
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	14	9	7
Average market value of Bay Mackerel			
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year....	Two Hundred		
Twenty five dollars			
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....			nothing
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....			"
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....			"
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....			"
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish.....			"
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel			

Nothing east of Mt Desert

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... "

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Not considering fishing in British waters remunerative Have sent no vessels to Bay of St Lawrence since have been in business

T. B. BAKER

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 21st day of May 1877

(Seal.)

SAMUEL S. BAKER

Notary Public

No 108.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of V. Doane Jr & Co. have been engaged in the fishing business for the past ten years, at Portsmouth N. H. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Ten
No. of Trips made each season.....	Fifty
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	None
Average value of Vessels each.....	Six thousand dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c each season, including Boats & Seines: \$2500.	
Average value of Insurance.....	Twenty-five Hundred dolls per season
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo \$390. for time employed	
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	Two Thousand dolls per season
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	
	Nine thousand dolls per year
Number of Vessels lost.....	two
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	Eighteen thousand dollars
Value of Fish lost.....	Nothing
Number of Lives lost.....	None
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....	Nominal
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per bbl.....	One dollar
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....	Nothing
Total value of Mackerel do.....	Nothing

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

Eight dollars per Bbl.

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....None received

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

One hundred & fifty dolls per season

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....Five Hundred dollars

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....Nothing

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Twenty five Hundred dollars annually

Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....Two thousand dolls.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand & Western Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel..Not acquainted

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries.

But very little change in location on American Shores. A grand change made in mode of taking Mackerel, being: from hook & line, to, purse seining, largely increasing expense The scarcity and poor quality of Mackerel in British waters. has induced parties fishing there, to transfer their fleet to our own shore fishing. And it is not uncommon to see English vessels on this coast engaged in fishing with modern appliances, being found more profitable than their own Coast fishing and we have sold several cargo's of cured fish the past two years to go to Halifax N. S.

V. DOANE JR & CO.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31 day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

A. F. HOWARD

Notary Public.

No. 109.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of C. Morris Tredick have been engaged in the fishing business for the past five years, at Portsmouth N H and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed..... Fifteen

No. of Trips made..... Sixty

1875 1876

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence..... 1 1

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence..none, but Cod fish

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands..... none

Average value of Vessels each..... Three thousand dollars

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... Twelve hundred dollars

Average value of Insurance..... 9%

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.

Thirty five dollars

Average value of Commissions, &c..... one hundred and fifty dollars

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,

including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Twenty thousand dollars

Number of Vessels lost..... 2

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....Seven thousand dollars

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt. 75c
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl two dollars.
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores none
 Total value of Mackerel do none
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel..... \$16. \$12. 8s.
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... \$12. 8s. \$6.
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

Two hundred & fifty dollars

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies
 Six hundred dollars yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Three thousand dollars yearly

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish
 La Have, Grand & Western Bank

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 Cape May to Bay St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Within last three years have not had any vessels engaged in Fishing in British Waters either for Cod or Mackerel. The Mackerel fishing being done on the Coast of the United States, and the Cod fishing on Grand La Have and Western Banks, vessels resorting to British Waters only for Bait and ice. The Gulf of St. Lawrence fishing of no account.

C. MORRIS TREDICK.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 19th day of May 1877.

(Seal.) A. F. HOWARD

Notary Public.

No. 110.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, James Frye have been engaged in the fishing business, for the past twenty seven years, at North Haven & Camden, Me. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, my vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed..... Five (5) 13 men each
 No. of Trips made..... four trips yearly, each vessel
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence none
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence none
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands none
 Average value of Vessels each \$4000
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... \$2000 yearly each vessel
 Average value of Insurance..... 9 per cent
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo ... \$35
 Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$200 each vessel
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore .. \$10,000

Number of Vessels lost
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits
 Value of Fish lost
 Number of Lives lost
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 cwt.....75 cts
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl.....\$2.00
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....none
 Total value of Mackerel do.....none
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....16. 12—8
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....\$200
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-
 plies.....none
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....none
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand & Georges Bank

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Mt Desert

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken.....nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
 eries

We have sent no fishermen to the Dominion Waters for the past five
 years for the following reasons namely: the fish have been of poor
 quality & scarce and in all that have fished there from this vicinity none
 have paid their expenses Mackerel on the American shore are plenty
 and of good quality but the expenses are so high in catching them that
 we do not consider them worth anything in the water before taken—

JAMES FRYE

STATE OF MAINE

KNOX SS—

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this second day of June 1877

(Seal.)

J. F. STETSON

Notary Public

No. 111.

This is to Certify, That the undersigned Geo. Tolman have been en-
 gaged in the fishing business, for the past twelve years, at Deer Isle,
 Maine, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in
 effect, our vessels have been employed as follows: viz—since 1866

No. of Vessels employed.....	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76
	12	13	12	10	8	4	4	4	5	5	5
No. of Trips made.....	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76
	20	18	20	18	16	8	8	4	12	16	18
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence...	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76
	16	17	15	13	9	8	6	3	1	0	0

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence 28800

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
 the Magdalene Islands..... None

Average value of Vessels each..... \$5000.

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	2700 each yearly
Average value of Insurance.....	10% vessel & outfits
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....	\$38.
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$150.
Average value of Warves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	76000.00
yearly expenses including pack bill & value of premises	
No. of Vessels lost.....	4
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$23,000.00
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost.....	17
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt	.75 cts
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	2.00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..	Nothing
Total value of Mackerel do.....	Nothing
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel..	No. 1s No. 2s No. 3s \$18. \$12. \$8.
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	No. 1 No. 2s No. 3s \$13. \$8. \$6.
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$230.
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	\$2500
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	\$1000. one year
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..	\$5000.00 from 1866 to 1872
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	\$900.
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	

Grand. Western. La Have. Georges Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Gulf St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken.....	Nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries	

The mode of fishing has entirely changed since I commenced the business. Trawls have taken the place of hand lines, and there is hardly a vessel that is fitted with lines for mackerel, in fact all the vessels from this place use Seines. I have lost thousands of dollars in sending vessels to Bay of St. Lawrence. I said in 1873 I would never send another vessel to the Bay for fish, if I wished too I could not get a crew to go there, we tried the Bay fishing to long for our own interest, but every spring we went in again, on the promises made the fall before—Mackerel are so plenty on this shore, and so easily taken, that the Bay Mackerel for the last few years have not been worth going there for—

GEO. TOLMAN

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this first day of June 1877

STATE OF MAINE

COUNTY OF HANCOCK

C. A. SPOFFORD

Public Notary

(Seal.)

No. 112.

This is to certify, that the undersigned, composing the firm of E G Willard Portland, Maine have been engaged in the fishing business for

the past Twenty-one (21) years, at Portland, Me. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Six
No. of Trips made.....	Average three trips
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	one
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	150 Bbls
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	None
Average value of Vessels each.....	Forty five hundred Dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	One thousand Dollars
Average value of Insurance.....	Nine per Cent
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	
	Thirty Dollars per Month per Man
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	Three hundred fifty Dollars
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	
Number of Vessels lost	Two
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	Ten thousand Dollars
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	None
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt	
	Sixty cts per hundred
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..	None
Total value of Mackerel do	None
Average market value of American Shore Mackerels	
	\$16—for ones—\$12—for twoes—\$8—for threes
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	
	\$10—for ones \$7—for twoes \$5—for threes
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
	Five hundred Dollars
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	

Western & Grand Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Bay St Lawrence & Madeline Island

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking

Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken

Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries.

Have abandoned the idea of sending My Vessels any longer to the Bay of St. Lawrence, and shall never send another Vessel to the Bay, as the whole business has been a failure as far as My Vessels are concerned. The Mackerel being very scarce there, and very hard to dispose of them when got, being so poor in quality.

E G WILLARD

STATE OF MAINE }
CUMBERLAND CO. SS. }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 21st day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 113.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Jordan & Blake have been engaged in the fishing business for the past 30 years, at Portland Maine and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	40
No. of Trips made.....	8
	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	0 0 1 0 0
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	135
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	of Magdalenes
Average value of Vessels each.....	\$4000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &.....	\$1500
Average value of Insurance.....	9 Per ct
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.....	\$35
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$100 each vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.....	\$25,000
Number of Vessels lost	
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.	None
Total value of Mackerel do.....	"
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	\$16 \$12 \$8
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	\$11 \$7 \$5
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$225
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies.....	\$100 yearly
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish.....	Jeffrys
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	

on American Shores
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken..... Nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

We have formerly had vessels engaged in the Bay of St Laurence fisheries for Mackerel but finding it unprofitable the vessels not paying their bills we have entirely withdrawn our Vessels from the Bay fisheries and confine them to our own shores for Mackerel and the Ocean Banks for fish. The British shore fisheries are worthless to us.

LEVI C. BLAKE

STATE OF MAINE, }
CUMBERLAND Co. ss }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 29 day of May 1877

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 114.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Lewis Whitten & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past years, at Portland Maine and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed

1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	shall send none in Bay this year 1877
17 in Bay 5 on shore	8 in Bay 8 on shore	8 in Bay 8 on shore	7 in Bay 11 on shore	6 in Bay 15 on shore	3 in Bay 14 on shore	

No. of Trips made..... Cannot say

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence

1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
3189 Bbls.	1045 Bbls.	1474 Bbls.	1552 Bbls.	474 Bbl.	301 Bbls.
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands					

Average value of Vessels each..... Five thousand dollars

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.. Six hundred dollars each trip

Average value of Insurance,

About two hundred dollars for the fishing season

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.,

Thirty-five dollars

Average value of Commissions, &c Two hundred fifty dollars

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore,

Twenty five thousand dollars

Number of Vessels lost..... Five

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.... Twenty five thousand dollars

Value of Fish lost..... No knowledge

Number of Lives lost..... Nineteen

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt not more than one dollar

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl..... Not more than two dollars per barrel

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores,

Cannot say

Total value of Mackerel do.

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

1871		1872		1873			
No. 1	No. 2	1s	2s	1s	2s		
\$17½	\$11½	\$17½	\$12	\$23½	\$13		
1874		1875		1876			
1s	2s	1s	2	3	1	2	3
\$13	\$9	\$29	\$16	\$9	\$15¾	\$8	\$6

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

1871		1872		1873		
No 1s—No 2		1s	2s	1s	2s	
\$15¼—\$10		\$16—\$11		\$14—\$12		
1874		1875		1876		
1s	2	1s	2s	1s	2s	3s
\$12—\$8		\$18—\$13½		\$14—\$6½		\$5¼

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

Two hundred fifty dollars

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....About One thousand dollars per annum
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs

About Fifteen hundred dollars

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Banks—Western Banks & Georges

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

From Cape Henry to Bay of St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

We have given the mackerel fishery in the Bay of St. Lawrence a *fair trial* and from the experience of the past three years we are fully satisfied that it would prove ruinous to pursue it longer consequently we shall not send a vessel there this present season—The mckl. caught in the Bay during the few past years have been very poor quality—and also very scarce. There are now in this market two trips of Bay mckl. caught and packed last fall that cannot be sold on account of the poor quality of the fish—Nearly all the mckl. are now caught in seines—A few seasons ago we thought that seining might prove profitable in the Bay St. Lawrence—and fitted a vessel—but on arriving they found the bottom so rough—that they could not use the seine without a great deal of risk of loosing it—(and it cost one thousand dollars) so they abandoned the voyage and returned home without any mackerel—so that now all of our mckl. fleet will fish in American waters—One English vessel has fitted here with a seine to fish in our waters.

T. C. LEWIS
 O. B. WHITTEN
 WM. H. WILLARD.

STATE OF MAINE }
 CUMBERLAND CO. SS }

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 23rd day of May, 1877.

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 115.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Charles A. Dyer have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Ten years at Portland, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed Fifty
 No. of Trips made Four Yearly
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence None
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence None
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
 Magdalene Islands..... None

Average value of Vessels each

Five large Class Valued at 5000 Each 45 1000 each

Average value of outfit, Salt, Bait, &c..... One thousand each

Average value of Insurance..... Three Thousand dollars

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.

Thirty Five

Average value of Commissions, &c.... One hundred dollars each yearly
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
 including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore,

Thirty thousand

Number of Vessels lost..... One

Value of Vessels lost including outfits..... Five Thousand

Value of Fish lost..... None

Number of Lives lost..... One

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 cwt..... One dollar

Total value of Mackerel taken before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl..... Two dollars

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..... none

Total value of Mackerel do..... none

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel..... 16\$ 12—8

Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... 12—8—6

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... 250

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-
 plies..... None

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.... One Thousand dollars

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... Unknown

Amount paid to British ports for repairs..... Nothing

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Western Bank Grand Georges

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

American Shore Bay St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water before taking..... Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... “

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
 eries

My Vessels are Mostly Employed in Mackerel Fisheries I send no
 Vessel in English Waters for the reason that the fish are so inferior to
 American Mackerel that Vessels cannot pay their outfit Bills to catch
 them My Vessels are Mostly engaged in seineing and netting Mack-
 erel in American Waters I cannot find any one who is willing to fit a
 Mackerel Catcher for Bay of St Lawrence Vessels that have been their
 have fell in debt largely I paid an assessment of 232\$ on $\frac{3}{2}$ of a Sch*
 this Year on two Years fishing in English Waters 1874 and 1875

CHAS A DYER

STATE OF MAINE }

CUMBERLAND CO. S. S. }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 25th day of May 1877

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 116.

This is to certify, That the undersigned W. S. Jordan & Co. have
 been engaged in the fishing business, for the past thirty three years,
 at Portland Me, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has
 been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed..... Twelve, averaging eight men each

No. of Trips made..... Four trips each yearly

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence

Average two each year, one only in 1876

* This Sch was in the employ of C & H Trefethen of Portland

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence

Thirteen hundred and fifty in five years

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
Magdalene Islands

Average value of Vessels each \$2000.00

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c \$800.00

Average value of Insurance 9 ¢

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. \$30.00

Average value of Commissions, &c \$120.00 to each vessel

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Number of Vessels lost None.

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
bbl.

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.. None.

Total value of Mackerel do

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

16¢ for 1s 12¢ for 2s 8¢ for 3s

Average market value of Bay Mackerel 11¢ for 1s 7¢ for 2s 5¢ for 3s

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$200.00

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and vari-
ous supplies \$200.00

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages Nothing.

Amount paid in British ports for repairs Nothing.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish.... Western Banks.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel Coast from Cape

May to Gulf of St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... Nothing.

Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken..... Nothing.

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

Owing to the unprofitable returns from the bay of St Lawrence by
the vessels sent there that branch of the business has been abandoned

Vessels fitted by our house have not paid their bills, consequently
our vessels are confined to our own shores for Mackerel and the Ocean
Banks for fish. British waters are not used by our vessels except as
harbors for shelter and when necessity compels supplies

WINTHROP S. JORDAN

STATE OF MAINE, }
CUMBERLAND CO. SS. }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 29 day of May, 1877

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 117.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Geo
Trefethen & Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past
Twenty one years, at Portland, Maine and that since the Washington
Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as
follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Six
No. of Trips made.....	Three, to, four
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	One and occasionally two
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	One, to three hundred per Vessels
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	Not more than one in ten
Average value of Vessels each.....	four thousand dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	Seven hundred dollars
Average value of Insurance	
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	Capt 60\$ Crew 30\$
Average value of Commissions, &c.	
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	
Nothing as we do not cure our fish, but pay one twelveth for curing dry fish and about 1\$ per Brl for Mackerel	
Number of Vessels lost.....	two
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	Nine thousand dollars
Value of Fish lost.....	two thousand dollars
Number of Lives lost.....	Eleven
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	
do not consider fish of any, or at least of very little value when taken from the water	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	the same as above
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....	none
Total value of Mackerel do....do not consider fish swimming of any value	
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	12 to 15\$ No 1—7 to 8 for No 2—and 5 to 6\$ No 3
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	No 1 — 10\$ No 2 — 7\$ No 3 — 5\$
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	two hundred dollars
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	fifty dollars per vessel per annum
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	nothing,
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	Twenty five hundred dollars per year
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Western Bank and Quero Bank
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	Gulf of St Lawrence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	none
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	none
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	
Within the last few years the mode of taken Mackerel has change en- tirely. from taken them by the Hook to seining, or netting, and for our shore fishing it has become useless to send a vessel without a sein, while in the Gulf of St Lawrence. our fisherman have been unable to use them to any profit. owing to the rocky Nature of the bottom, and the large quantities of small Herring. that fill the meshes of the seine, the Mackerel are inferior to those taken on our own Shore, for these causes, we have been gradully withdrawing from the Gulf of St Lawrence	

fisheries, last year sending only one vessel, and this year shall not send any.

GEORGE TREFETHEN
THOMAS S. JACK

STATE OF MAINE, }
CUMBERLAND Co. ss }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 31st day of May 1877

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 118.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of J. W. Sawyer & Co, have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Thirty years, at Portland Me and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed Fifteen (15)
No. of Trips made Two each Vessel yearly
1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence 1 8 5 2 1

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence .250. 975. 1000. 200—150

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including
Magdalene Islands

Mostly Caught at Magdalene Isls

Average value of Vessels each \$5000.

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... 3000 yearly each Vessel

Average value of Insurance..... 9 per cent on Vessel & Outfits

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.. \$40.

Average value of Commissions, &c 175.

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

1000. Yearly

Number of Vessels lost Two at Bay St Lawrence

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.. Seventeen (\$17000.) Thousand

Value of Fish lost \$2000 in mackerel

Number of Lives lost none

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt
ct. 75

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
bbl.

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.. None

Total value of Mackerel do "

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel \$16. 10. & 8

Average market value of Bay Mackerel \$11. 8 & 6

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$250

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-
plies \$200. each Vessel Yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

From \$3 to 500. three Vessles

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Western & Grand Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Bay St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water before taken Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken "

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries Our Vessels have been codfishing on the Banks and mackereling mostly off our own shore. The Bay of St Lawrence fishing has constantly grown poorer our Vessels have not paid their expenses. Shall send none there this Season. The shore mackerel are better and bring a higher price. We use Seines where we formalely used hooks & lines. The Codfish are taken many miles from any Shore. and within No National Jurisdiction

J W. SAWYER
D L FERNALD
ROBT. H. SAWYER

STATE OF MAINE.
CUMBERLAND Co. ss.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 21st day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 119.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Thomes—Chase and Co have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty Eight years, at Portland Me and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....Twenty
No. of Trips made.

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence..	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	6	4	4	3	2	1

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	1200	600	600	350	200	66

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within three miles of shore, not including Magdalen Islands

most caught in round Magdalene Islands

Average value of Vessels each.....Fifty-five Hundred

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c

Fifteen to Twenty hundred yearly

Average value of Insurance.....9%

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....\$35

Average value of Commissions, &c.....\$200

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors, and labor on shore

Twenty Thousand Dollars

Number of Vessels lost.....none

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....nothing

Value of Fish lost.....none

Number of Lives lost.....none

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt
75c

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....\$2.00

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....none

Total value of Mackerel do.....do

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel...\$16 \$12 \$8 per Bbl

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....\$11 \$8 & \$6 per Bbl

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....\$275

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....\$150 yearly

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Bay of Fundy La Have & Grand Bank
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Bay St. Lawrence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries.

The Bay St Lawrence Fishing has been fallen off with me for the last seven or eight years, so that it has got to be an impossibility for my vessels to pay their expenses fishing in their waters for Mackerel. I shall send no more vessels to the Bay of St Lawrence,

C D THOMES

W. H. CHASE

STATE OF MAINE,
CUMBERLAND COUNTY SS, }

Sworn and subscribed before me this 23rd day of May 1877,

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public

No. 120.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of E. H Chase have been engaged in the fishing business for the past 20 years, at Portland & Boothbay and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....Thirty-five

No. of Trips made.....Four to six to each vessel yearly

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877
	7	5	4	2	none

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877
	1255	1000	870	360	none

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands

Most Caught in around the Magdalene Islands

Average value of Vessels each.....\$6500

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....3000

Average value of Insurance.....9%

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. \$30

Average value of Commissions, &c.....200 Each vessel

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore \$40,000

Number of Vessels lost.....one

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....\$12,000

Value of Fish lost

Number of lives lost.....None

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....50c

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....\$1.50

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....none
 Total value of Mackerel do..... none
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel..... \$16. \$12. \$8
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... \$11 \$8 \$6
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... \$270
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies..... One Hundred each vessel
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... \$6000 each year
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... 250 year
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs none
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Bay Fundy & Cape May

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

to Bay St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

I shall not send any more vessels in British waters fishing; It has been a failure with me. for the last four years the vessels have not paid their expenses. The fish or mackerel caught ther last year by my vessels are still on my hands; I have been unable to sell them at any price they being such poor Quality the dealers will not take them when they can get our shore mackerel.

E. H. CHASE

STATE OF MAINE {
 CUMBERLAND CO. SS }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 23rd day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 121.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of C & H Trefethen have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Six years, at Portland Maine and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed Twenty
 No. of Trips made..... One hundred pr year for all of the vessels
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence..... Nine since 1871
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence

Fourteen hundred seventy eight

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands None

Average value of Vessels each Three thousand dollars

Average value of outfits, Salt, Bait, &c Eight hundred "

Average value of Insurance..... Twenty two hundred dollars

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.

Thirty dollars

Average value of Commissions, &c.

Three per cent on net stock to Capts of vessels

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Twenty five thousand dollars

Number of Vessels lost One

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits Four thousand dollars

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost.....	Fifteen
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	On dollar
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	Two dollars
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	
Total value of Mackerel do.	
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	Ten dollars
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	Eight dollars
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	Two hundred & seventy dollars
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	One hundred and fifty dollars pr year for each vessell
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	Two hundred dollars pr year
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..	Thirty thousand since 1871
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	Three hundred dollars since 1871
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Western & Quereau Bank & Gulf of St Lawrence
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	Coast of the United States & Gulf of St Lawrence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	Nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	

We have not had any vessels engaged in mackerell fishing in British waters the past year. we consider that branch of fishing a failure as far as the Gulf of St Lawrence is concerned our mackerell fishing is all done on the coast of the United States those engaged in codfishing go mostly to Western & Quereau Banks and occasionally to Gulf of St Lawrence, but the last named fishing ground has prooved almost a failure the past year

C & H. TREFETHEN

STATE OF MAINE }
CUMBERLAND CO. SS }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 26th day of May 1877

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 122.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Chase & Cushing this Company have been engaged in the fishing business for the past thirty five years, at Portland Me and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Twelve				
No. of trips made	Everag three				
	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
No. of trips to Bay St. Lawrence...	4	2	2	3	2
	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay					
St. Lawrence.....	600	425	360	230	180
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including					
Magdalene Islands	None				

Average value of vessels each	45,00
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.... 1000 Bay trips 600 Shore Trips	
Average value of Insurance	
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo....	\$30
Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$350
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	20.00

Number of Vessels lost

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per
cwt..... 60 cts

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
bbl.

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores

Total value of Mackerel do.

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel 16. 12. 8

Average market value of Bay Mackerel 10. 7. 5

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year 200

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
eries

Senes are Mosley yousd for Shore fishing for Mackerling on the Cost
of New England We Have No Seains in youse in inglish Watters the
fishing for Mackerling in Bay Stlorece & Shelore Bay We Have
Abandend as a Lusing Buesnes

M M CHASE
EMERY CUSHING

STATE OF MAINE, }
CUMBERLAND, SS }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 21st day of May 1877.

LEWIS B. SMITH

Notary Public.

No. 123.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, William Maddocks have
been engaged in the fishing business for the past Sixty-Two years, at
Southport. Me, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has
been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....Ten (10)

No. of Trips made.....Three

1874

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence..... 1 only in five years.

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....none.

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not includ-
ing Magdalene IslandsNone

Average value of Vessels each.....	\$5,500
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	2,500
Average value of Insurance.....	9.0 per cent
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	[\$50. per mo
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$200.00
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore..	\$25,000
Number of Vessels lost	
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.....	50 cents per 100 lbs
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	1.50 per bbl.
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..	nothing
Total value of Mackerel do.....	"
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	18. 12. 8.
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	12. 8. 5. per bbl—
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$200.00
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	\$500.—per annum.
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	\$50 " "
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish....	Western Banks
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	

Cape May to Eastport.

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	"
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries	

I sent one vessel to Bay St. Lawrence in 1874—and she lost \$500 on the trip—

Previous to 1870 we fitted a large fleet for the Bay—but could not make it pay, and consider that fishing entirely worthless. The fish which our vessels bring are caught on Banks many miles from the jurisdiction of any government

WM T MADDOCKS.

STATE OF MAINE

LINCOLN S.S.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty-Third day of May 1877

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON

Notary Public.

No. 124.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, Freeman Orne have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Fifty years, at Southport, Maine and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....	Six—
No. of Trips made.....	Three
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1 in 1874 got 100 bbls mackerel
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence..	100 "

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	none
Average value of Vessels each	\$5.000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$3.000
Average value of Insurance	9%
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$40—
Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$200—
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.	\$15.000—
Number of Vessels lost	one
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$7.000—
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.	50.c—
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.	\$1.50
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	Nothing
Total value of Mackerel do.	"
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.	18. 12. 5
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	11. 7. 4
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$200—
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies	\$500.—
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	\$100.—
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	\$400.00 per annum.
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	
	Western Banks & Orphan.
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
	Cape May to Eastport. Me.
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	"
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries	
We send no vessels to Bay fishing—It is abandoned so far as our- selves—are interested.	
Shore Mackerel bring one third more than bay and the catch, with seine is surer—	
Our vessels catch fish on banks with trawls, many miles from any na- tional jurisdiction—Our experience in Bay fishing has been ruinous—	
FREEMAN ORNE	

STATE OF MAINE
LINCOLN S.S.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty. Third day of May
1877—

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON
Notary Public

No. 125.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Moses
E. Peirce & Co—have been engaged in the fishing business for the past
Forty years, at Boothbay, Me. and that since the Washington Treaty,
so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	Fifty				
No. of Trips made	average of Three				
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	6	8	6	6	2
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	1200	800	1200	600	200
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	Did not fish in St. Le. but Modalline Islands				
Average value of Vessels each	\$5000.—each				
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$2000.—each				
Average value of Insurance	9 per cent				
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.	\$50.00 per mo.				
Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$250.00				
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, in- cluding expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$30,000				
Number of Vessels lost	Three.				
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	\$25,000				
Value of Fish lost					
Number of Lives lost					
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	75 cents				
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per bbl	\$200				
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores ..	Nothing				
Total value of Mackerel do	"				
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel ..	16.	12—8—	per bbl.		
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	11.	6.	4		
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$250				
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	\$3,000 per annum				
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring ...	\$2,000 per annum				
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	\$500	"	"		
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	\$500	"	"		
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Grand & Western Braddelle & Orphan Banks				
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	Cape May to St. Lawrence.				
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	Nothing				
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	"				
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries					

Fishing business in my case has been changed from hand lining to trawling seining—Can send no vessels to Bay of St. Lawrence profit-
ably—business had so depreciated—Our vessels now fished on banks,
without national jurisdiction. My Mackerel have been caught chiefly on
our own shores—for the bay fishing has been an entire failure—I cannot
ship a crew of good fishermen in this place to go to the bay

M. E. PRINCE

Fishing business in my case has been changed from hand lining to trawling seining—Can send no vessels to Bay of St. Lawrence profit-
ably—business had so depreciated—Our vessels now fished on banks,
without national jurisdiction. My Mackerel have been caught chiefly on
our own shores—for the bay fishing has been an entire failure—I cannot
ship a crew of good fishermen in this place to go to the bay

M E PEIRCE

STATE OF MAINE
LINCOLN.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty second day of May
1877

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON
Notary Public.

No. 126.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, Stephen G. Hodgdon have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Thirty (30) years, at Boothbay—Me—and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....	Six—
No. of Trips made.....	Three each
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1876 sent one vessel
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	80 bbls—
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	none—
Average value of Vessels each.....	\$4000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$2.500—
Average value of Insurance.....	10 per cent.
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.....	\$40.00.
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$250.00.
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.....	\$40.000
Number of vessels lost.....	one
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$2.500
Value of Fish lost.....	
Number of Lives lost.....	none
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl 75 cents	
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$200
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....	nothing
Total value of Mackerel do.....	"
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	16. 12. 8.
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	11. 7. 5—per bbl—
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....	\$200.00
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup- plies.....	\$600. per annum
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	\$250. per annum—
Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish.....	Western & Quero Banks
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel.....	Cape May to Bay St. Laurence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	"
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries.....	
The Bay fishing is an entire failure in my experience. I sent <i>one</i> ves- sel 1876 and she sunk \$300. getting only 80 bbls—Shall send no more —The fish are taken by my vessels on the banks named and far out of the jurisdiction of any government. Fish by trawls & senes.	

S. G. HODGDON

STATE OF MAINE

LINCOLN. S.S.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty second day of May
1877

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON

Notary Public.

No. 127.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, Allen Lewis of Boothbay have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Fifty years, at Boothbay and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed..... fifteen vessels

No. of Vessels employed.....	Fifteen vessels—
No. of Trips made.....	Three trips each.

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	8	8	8	8	9

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence

	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
1872					
1873					
1874					
1875					
1876					

1000	1000	700	1,000	300
------	------	-----	-------	-----

	1855	1860	1870	1880	1890
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	Did no fish in shore	Did no fish in shore	Did no fish in shore	Did no fish in shore	Did no fish in shore

Average value of Vessels each..... \$1,000.....

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$3.00
---	--------

Average value of Insurance 9 per cent—

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. £ 10.—

Average value of Commissions, &c	\$ 25.00
--	----------

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

\$25.000—

	\$ 7,600—
Number of Vessels lost.....	None

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	63
--	----

Value of Fish lost "

Number of Lives lost 64

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....	70 cents
--	----------

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl	\$ 2.00
--	---------

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores. Nothing

Total value of Mackerel do..... 84

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel 16. 12. 8 per bl—

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	11.	7.	5 per bill
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Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....\$200.—

and various supplies
\$2,500 per annum.

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....\$750 per annum—

Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....\$ 100. per annum

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Bank & Western.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Bay of St. Lawrence. Nothing

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking Seeding
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taking ...

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American series

My method of doing fishing business has been totally changed within ten year—We fish by trawls and seines—where we used formerly hand lines entirely—Our shore Mackerel bring much larger prices—and men decline to be shipped for the bay if they can get other work—Our Bank fishermen take their fish many miles from any national jurisdiction.

ALLEN LEWIS

STATE OF MAINE.

LINCOLN. SS.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty second day of May 1877

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON.

Notary Public.

No. 128.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, Albion P. Hodgdon have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Thirty five years, at Boothbay Me and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed.....	Five —
No. of Trips made.....	Three

	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	2	3	2	2	2

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	average trips 150 bbls each
--	-----------------------------

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....	not any
---	---------

Average value of Vessels each.....	\$5000.
------------------------------------	---------

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	\$2500
---	--------

Average value of Insurance.....	9 per cent
---------------------------------	------------

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. .	\$35.00
---	---------

Average value of Commissions, &c.....	\$250.00
---------------------------------------	----------

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore..	\$20.000
--	----------

Number of Vessels lost.....	one
-----------------------------	-----

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	\$7.000
---	---------

Value of Fish lost.....	\$2.000
-------------------------	---------

Number of Lives lost	
----------------------	--

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	50 cents per 100 lbs.
---	-----------------------

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$1.50 per bbl
---	----------------

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores....	nothing
--	---------

Total value of Mackerel do.....	"
---------------------------------	---

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	18. 12. 8
--	-----------

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	11. 7— 5 per bbl—
---	-------------------

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year....	\$200.00 per an.
--	------------------

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	\$500.00 per an.
--	------------------

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
--	--

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....	\$250. per annum
--	------------------

Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....	\$250. " "
---	------------

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish....	Western Banks
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Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
---	--

Cape May to Bay St. Laurece	
-----------------------------	--

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	nothing
---	---------

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....	"
--	---

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	
---	--

The fishing business is become almost wholly changed. from hand-lines to Trawling and seines for mackeral.

Good men cannot be had for Bay fishing and all our fish are taken on the banks far from the jurisdiction of any Government. All vessels sent into the bay of St. Laurence for three years have not paid their bills and I shall send no more—

A P HODGDON

STATE OF MAINE—
LINCOLN S.S.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this twenty second day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON—

Notary Public.

No. 129.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, Luther Maddocks have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Fifteen years, at Boothbay Me and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of vessels employed..... Thirteen

No. of Trips made

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence..... Nothing since 1872—

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence..... none

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands..... "

Average value of Vessels each \$5,000

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... \$2,500 each

Average value of Insurance 9% per cent

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. \$40

Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$250

Average value of Wharves, Fish houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore. \$30,000

Number of Vessels lost..... Two (2)

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits \$7,000 each—

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost..... Fourteen

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt. —70 cents

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per bbl \$500

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores

Total value of Mackerel do..... none

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel. 16. 12. 8. per bbl—

Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... 11. 7—5 per bbl—

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$225—00 per annum.

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies \$2,000 per annum—

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.... \$1,000— "

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages \$500 "

Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... \$500— "

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand, Western & Orpha Banks.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Bay of St. Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... "

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Our Vessels were formerly wholly engaged in the cod and mackerel fishery—but we were compelled to abandon the business & for five years have been wholly engaged in the Menhaden & Mackerel fishery on our own coast—The bay of St. Laurence fishery, proving, in my experience, a total failure and for that reason we have sent no vessels there for five years—& have taken no fish of any kind within three miles of the shore—

STATE OF MAINE

LINCOLN SS

B

LUTHER MADDOCKS.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty second day of May 1877—

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON

Notary Public.

No. 130.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, Levi Reed, have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Forty years, at Boothbay, Me—and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed	Three
No. of Trips made	Three
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	None within five years—
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	None
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	none
Average value of Vessels each	\$5500 each
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.	\$2500
Average value of Insurance	10 per cent.
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. 45 per mo.	
Average value of Commissions, &c.	\$250 per annum
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors, and labor on shore ..	\$10,000
Number of Vessels lost	none
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	"
Value of Fish lost	"
Number of Lives lost	"
Total number of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt	50 cents
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl	\$1.50 per bbl
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores ..	nothing
Total value of Mackerel do ...	"
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel	18 12 8
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	12 8 6—
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$225.00
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	500 per annum
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	\$1000 " " "
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	\$400 " "
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	\$200 " "
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	

Grand Bank & Bradlee.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Magdalen Islands—

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in water, before taken "

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

Business has become so unremunative that I have been compelled to abandon it, so as Bay St. Lawrence. Cath now with seners in american waters. Never got fish within English jurisdiction but on banks far from shore.

LEVI REED

STATE OF MAINE
LINCOLN S.S.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty-second day of May 1877—

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON

Notary Public

No. 131.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, Charles C. Blake have been engaged in the fishing business for the past six years, at Boothbay, Me. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed..... Two—

No. of Trips made..... Two trips each—
1873 & 1874

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence 2, ——— bbls only.
116 210

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore,
not including Magdalene Islands. not one tenth

Average value of Vessels each..... \$4,500

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... \$2,500

Average value of Insurance..... 10 per cent

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.
\$40—per month

Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$200—

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore
Six thousand dollars.

Number of Vessels lost none

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits "

Value of Fish lost "

Number of Lives lost "

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c per
cwt..... 50 cents per 100 lbs.

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
bbl \$2.00 per bbl.

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores
caught none

Total value of Mackerel do..... "

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel 10, 12, 8

Average market value of Bay Mackerel 10—6—4 per bbl.

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year
Less than \$200, per man.

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....50 per annum—
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Western Bank | Quero Bank.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel coast of Maine
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....Nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken “
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

send my vesels to the banks as above—within no jurisdiction of any government—Have sent two vessels to Bay St L. and both made failures—Now seine for Meckerel off our own coast—

Shall never send vessels to the bay. as it does not pay.

C C BLAKE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty Third day of May 1877

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON

Notary Public.

No. 132.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of McDougall & Race have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Twenty-Two years, at Boothbay, Maine and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	ten
No. of Trips made.....	Three trips each—
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
	20 15 10 10 4

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
	5,000 2,000 1,500

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore,
 not including Magdalene Islands... not one tenth
 Average value of Vessels each \$4,000
 Average value of Outfits, Salt Bait, &c..... \$2,500
 Average value of Insurance 9 per cent
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time viz., wages per mo. \$40—
 Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$250—
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
 including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Fifteen Thousand dollars.

Number of Vessels lost.....	Three—
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....	Thirteen Thousand
Value of Fish lost	\$2,000
Number of Lives lost	Ten
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.....	76 cents pe 100 lbs—
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl	\$1.50—
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores..	Nothing
Total value of Mackerel do	\$300 per annum

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel 18—12. 6
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... 11. 8. 6—per 100—
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year \$225. —
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies..... \$900—per annum —
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... \$300 " "
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... \$1,000. — " "
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand — & Western Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to Bay St. Law.

Actual value of fish in the water, before taking Less than nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... " " "

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

We have now dissolved partner ship—and the business cannot be profitably conducted. Fishing was profitable only during the excitement of the war—Never caught any fish within the jurisdiction of any government except American—

Fishing is conducted now by trowling & with Seines.

SIMON McDUGGALL
 JAMES L RACE

STATE OF MAINE—
 LINCOLN S.S.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this twenty-second day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON,
Notary Public.

In the Bay of St. Lawrence in the years 1875 & 1876 the business of fishing was so unprofitable that we send none this year.

It is impossible to get good fishermen to ship for such voyages—

JAMES L RACE

STATE OF MAINE—
 LINCOLN S. S.

Personally appeared James L. Race on this Twenty second day of May A. D. 1877. and made oath to the truth of the above statement by him subscribed—

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON
Notary Public.

No. 133.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of S. Nickerson & Sons have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Eleven years, at Boothbay, Me. and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

Ne. of Vessels employed.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Four.
No. of Trips made.....	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	average six trips each—
	2	2	0	0	0	
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	2	2	0	0	0	
				1872	1873	
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....				300	300	

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands.....none
 Average value of Vessels each.....\$5.000—
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....\$1.800—
 Average value of Insurance......9 per cent
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. \$40.00 per mo.
 Average value of Commissions, &c.....\$200—
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore.....\$15.000
 Number of Vessels lost.....One
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....\$8,000.00
 Value of Fish lost.....\$800.—
 Number of Lives lost.....none
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt.....75 cents—per 100 weight
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....\$200 per bbl—
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....nothing
 Total value of Mackerel do.....“
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

16. 12 & 8 per bbl—

Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....11. 6—5
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year.....\$250
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....\$1,000—
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring.....nothing
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages.....\$300.00 per annum—
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs.....\$300.00——per annum.
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand Banks—Western Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

now off our own coast.

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.... Nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken.....“
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

The chang has been almost entire in our business—in a few years. Since 1873 we have sent no vessels to St. Lawrence after Mackerel because it does not pay. Could not ship a crew—none of our vessels take fish within the limits of the Dominion—all are caught on the Banks many miles from any National Jurisdiction.

STEPHEN NICKERSON
 STEPHEN E. NICKERSON
 ALONZO R. NICKERSON

STATE OF MAINE }
 LINCOLN S. S. }

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty second day of May 1877.

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON

Notary Public.

No. 134.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of John McClintock & Co. have been engaged in the fishing business for the

past Forty-Three years, at Boothbay and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	Eight—(8)
No. of Trips made.....	5 Trips each vessel yearly average.
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence....	one " " " "
	av. each 1872 1873 1874 1875 1876

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St.

Lawrence.....	200 250 125 100 0	each—
---------------	-------------------	-------

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore

no. including Magdalene Islands none except near Modeline Is.

Average value of Vessels each..... average \$3 000

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c..... " \$2,500

Average value of Insurance..... about 9 per cent

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo—

\$40.00 per mo—

Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$225—

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

\$20,000—

Number of Vessels lost..... Two—

Value of Vessels lost including outfits..... Fourteen Thousand dollars.

Value of Fish lost..... \$2,000—

Number of Lives lost..... none

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt..... 70.c Seventy cents

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl..... \$2.00

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores nothing

Total value of Mackerel do..... "

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel 16. 10. 8—per bbl

Average market value of Bay Mackerel..... 11. 8. 6—per bbl—

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... \$200.00

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies..... \$1,000 yearly—

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... \$1,500 "

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages..... \$1,500 "

Amount paid in British ports for repairs..... \$500—

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Grand & Western Banks.

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Cape May to bay St Lawrence

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... "

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

We have had vessells engaged in cod fishing generally and mackerel alling off our shore—The bay fishing has decreased in value each year for five years till it is now worthless—We sent none in 1876 & shall send none 1877. On this coast our vessells fish for mackerel using seines generally since Mackerel caught here are worth 40 per cent more than Bay Mackerel—Our fish are taken on the Banks far from shore outside of any National jurisdiction

W G McCLINTOCK)
JOHN H McCLINTOCK)

STATE OF MAINE—
LINCOLN S. S.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Twenty second day of May
1877

(Seal.)

G. B. KENNISTON
Notary Public

No. 135.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of Michewl Stinson have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twenty years, at Swans Island and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed	6
No. of Trips made	6 per year
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	none for 8 years
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	
Average value of Vessels each	\$3,000
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	\$2000 per year
Average value of Insurance	300 " "
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages mo...	35
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	200 per year
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$6000
Number of Vessels lost	one
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	2500
Value of Fish lost.....	1800
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt	1.00
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	250
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	
Total value of Mackerel do.	

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	1 2s 3 16 12 8
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	12 8 6
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year....	350
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies	
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish	Western Bank
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking.....	nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken	nothing
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish- eries	

Have formerly been largely engaged in Mackereling in Bay St Lawrence say 8 years ago since have been seining off our own shores You left the Bay fishing because we could not pay our expenses do not consider the Bay of St Laurence fishery of any value whatever cannot pay for our out fits this is the experience of all fishermen at Swans

Island cannot ship a Crew to go to the Bay on Shares every vessel that went there 8 years ago lost money

MICHAEL STINSON

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 15 day of May 1877
(Seal.)

F T BABSON

Coll of Customs

Dist of Gloucester

No. 136.

This is to certify, That the undersigned Lewis McDonald have been engaged in the fishing business, for the past Ten years, at North Haven Maine, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows:

No. of Vessels employed.....	12, & fit 18 others engaged as below
No. of Trips made.....	5
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence.....	1872 1873 1874 1875 1876
	4 4 3 1 0
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence.....	700 700 650 200 0
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands	Not one Barrel in Ten
Average value of Vessels each	\$3,500
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c	\$2,000 each Vessel
Average value of Insurance.....	9 per ct
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo	\$43
Average value of Commissions, &c	\$200 each Vessel
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	\$10,000
Number of Vessels lost	
Value of Vessels lost, including outfits	
Value of Fish lost	
Number of Lives lost	
Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt	50 cts
Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.....	\$2,00
Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores	
Total value of Mackerel do	
Average market value of American Shore Mackerel.....	16 12 8
Average market value of Bay Mackerel.....	11 1 3
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	\$250
Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies.....	\$1,500 Yearly
Amount paid to British fishermen for herring	
Amount paid to British fishermen as wages	\$500 Yearly
Amount paid in British ports for repairs	
Locations frequented by American vessels for fish.....	Western Banks
Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel	Cape May Bay St Laurence
Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking	Nothing
Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken	
Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries	
I have not made it a paying business sending Vessels into the Bay of St Laurence for Mackerel. for the last 5 Years. Last year sent none	

there the Vessels cannot pay expenses I have therefore abandoned the Business at that point and confine my Vessels to the Ocean Banks for fish and off our own shores for Mackerel using Seines & Trauls

LEWIS McDONALD

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 25 day of May 1877

(Seal.)

F T BABSON

Collector of Customs

Dist of Gloucester

No. 137.

This is to certify, That the undersigned C Wasgatt & Company have been engaged in the fishing business for the past Sixteen years, at Swans Island Maine, and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows: Namely since 1866

No. of Vessels employed Ten (10) 14 men to each Vessel
No. of Trips made five trips yearly each year
No. of Trips to Bay St Lawrence

	1866	1867	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876
	6	00	00	00	1	00	00	00	00	00	00

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St Lawrence 1866
900 Bls 200

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including Magdalene Islands..... None caught within three miles of Shore

Average value of vessels each \$4000

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c. \$2200

Average value of Insurance 9 per cent on Vessel & Outfits

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo.... \$32

Average value of Commissions, &c..... \$225 to each Captain yearly

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

..... \$2500 yearly

Number of vessels lost

Value of vessels lost, including outfits

Value of Fish lost

Number of Lives lost

Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt..... 80 cts

Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl..... \$2.25

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores... nothing

Total value of Mackerel do..... nothing

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

	No 1s	16	No 2	11	No 3	7.50
Average market value of Bay Mackerel	"	"	"	"	"	"
Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year	"	"	"	"	"	"

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year..... \$225

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies..... 1200\$

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring..... 1000\$

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid to British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Cape May to Gulf of St Lawrence

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water before taken..... "

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

When I, in the year 1861 became engaged in the fishing business, the Bay of St. Lawrence was considered the best fishing ground for mackerel, and I sent my vessels there, but the business was not remunerative. In the spring of 1867 I concluded I had lost enough money there. Since that time none that I have controlled have gone there (One of which I owned a part went, I think, in 1870 but she did not pay her bill.) Since abandoning the Bay of St. Lawrence the business has, with me, been remunerative, I own four times the tonnage and value now that I did in 1867. Not one of our Captains or crews have to my recollection, even proposed a trip to the Bay within the last five years

C WASIGATT

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this Sixth day of June 1877

THOMAS WARREN,

Justice of the Peace

STATE OF MAINE.

HANCOCK, SS.

I, Hutson B. Saunders, Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Courts, in said County, certify that Thomas Warren Esquire is and was at the date of his Certificate an acting Justice of the Peace, in and for said County, duly commissioned and qualified to act as such, and that the signature to the paper annexed, purporting to be his, is genuine, and that he is duly authorized and empowered, by the laws of said State, to take acknowledgment of Deeds, Assignments, and Powers of Attorney, and to administer oaths.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed the Seal of the Supreme Judicial Court, for said State, this Sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven

(Seal.)

HUTSON B SAUNDERS Clerk.

No. 138.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of James Fitch of N London Conn have been engaged in the fishing business for the past twenty years, at New London Conn and that since the Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed	Ten.
No. of Trips made	Eight
No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence	none
No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including	none
Magdalene Islands.....	none
Average value of Vessels each.....	Three Thousand Dollars
Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c.....	Two Thousand Dollars
Average value of Insurance	Nine per cent
Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per ton	Thirty five Dollars
Average value of Commissions, &c.....	Two Hundred Dollars
Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore	Twenty Thousand Dollars

Number of Vessels lostone
 Value of Vessels lost, including outfits Three Thousand Dollars
 Value of Fish lost none
 Number of Lives lost Six
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt.
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl.

Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shoresnone
 Total value of Mackerel do.

Average market value of American Shore Mackerel

Average market value of Bay Mackerel

Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year

Two Hundred & fifty Dolls

Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-
 plies yearly one Hundred Dolls

Amount paid to British fishermen for herring

Amount paid to British fishermen as wages

Amount paid in British ports for repairs

Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georges & Lahave Banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel

Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking Nothing

Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken Nothing

Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
 eries

Our vessels are engaged mostly in the Halibut & Cod Fisheries Some
 of them have tried down to the Bay of Fundy & have proved a failure
 for this reason we confine our fishing to the American waters & the
 Ocean Banks not using the British waters for any fishing whatever

JAMES FITCH

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 17th day of May 1877

(Seal.)

C. G. SISTARE

Notary Public

No. 139.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of C A
 Weaver & Co New London Conn have been engaged in the fishing busi-
 ness for the past 35 years, at New London Conn and that since the
 Washington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been
 employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed 15

No. of Trips made Eight

No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence none

No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence none

No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not including

Magdalene Islands none

Average value of Vessels each 4000

Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c. 3900

Average value of Insurance nine per cent

Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. . Forty

Average value of Commissions, &c. Four Hundred

Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing,
 including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore

Twenty Thousand doll

Number of Vessels lost 3.

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits \$1000
 Value of Fish lost 1200
 Number of Lives lost none
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c. per cwt. none
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per bbl.
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores none
 Total value of Mackerel do "
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year
 Two Hundred & fifty doll
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various supplies 300 dollars yearly
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs 50 doll yearly
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish

Georges Browns Lahove & Western banks

Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fisheries

our vessalls are engaged mostley in the Halibut and Cod fisheries we have sent our vessols in the the Bay of Funday the trips have proved a failure in almost every trip for this reason we confine our fisheries to the oacean banks out side of oney national jurisdiction and our own shores

C A WEAVER & CO

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 17th day of May 1877

(Seal.)

C. G. SISTARE

Notary Public

No. 140.

This is to certify, That the undersigned, composing the firm of H A Brown & Co of New London Conn have been engaged in the fishing business for Ten years at New London Conn and that since the Wash ington Treaty, so called, has been in effect, our vessels have been employed as follows :

No. of Vessels employed Ten
 No. of Trips made Eight
 No. of Trips to Bay St. Lawrence None
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel from Bay St. Lawrence None
 No. of Barrels of Mackerel caught within 3 miles of shore, not includ ing Magdalene Islands None
 Average value of Vessels each Four Thousand
 Average value of Outfits, Salt, Bait, &c Three Thousand
 Average value of Insurance Nine per cent
 Average value of Captains' and Crews' time, viz., wages per mo. Thirty five

Average value of Commissions, &c Two Hundred Dollars
 Average value of Wharves, Fish-houses, &c., for curing and packing, including expenses of Clerks, Proprietors and labor on shore
 Twenty Thousand Dollars
 Number of Vessels lost Five

Value of Vessels lost, including outfits.....Thirty Thousand Dollars
 Value of Fish lost
 Number of Lives lost.....Twenty Five
 Total value of Fish taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per cwt
 Total value of Mackerel taken, before curing, splitting, salting, &c., per
 bbl
 Total value of Fish taken within three miles of British shores.....None
 Total value of Mackerel do.
 Average market value of American Shore Mackerel
 Average market value of Bay Mackerel
 Average earnings of the operative fishermen per year
 Two Hundred & Fifty Dollars
 Average amount paid in British ports for bait, ice, and various sup-
 plies.....Two Hundred Dollars
 Amount paid to British fishermen for herring
 Amount paid to British fishermen as wages
 Amount paid in British ports for repairs
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Fish
 Georges Brown, La Have & Western Banks
 Locations frequented by American vessels for Mackerel
 Actual value of Fish in the water, before taking..... Nothing
 Actual value of Mackerel in the water, before taken..... Nothing
 Facts as to changes in location and mode of conducting American fish-
 eries

Our Vessels are engaged mostly in the Halibut & Cod Fisheries
 We have had our vessels go to the Bay of Fundy in some cases but it
 has been unprofitable & we have discontinued it & confine our Fishing
 to the Banks outside of any National Jurisdiction and to our own shores

H A BROWN & CO

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 17th day of May 1877

(Seal.)

C. G. SISTARE

Notary Public

No. 141.

*Solemn Declaration of William Harvey concerning the Fisheries in Ameri-
 can Canadian Waters*

I William Harvey reside at Aulds Cove Strait of Canso

My name is William Harvey am fifty four years of age have been
 engaged fishing since I was twelve Years old, have been employed from
 Eighteen to twenty Seasons in American Vessels fishing for Cod and
 Mackerel in the Gulf of St Lawrence and on the Atlantic Coast of
 British America and two Seasons on the United States Coast. I have
 often fished alongside of an American Mackerel fishing fleet when em-
 ployed in Provincial fishing Vessels. the Catch of Mackerel by Colo-
 nial Mackerel fishing vessels is not at all lessened on account of an
 American fleet being alongside of them the main reason for that is I
 think is that more bait is thrown out

Fully one half of the Crews of American fishing Schooners visiting
 the fishing grounds of Dominion of Canada are residents and subjects
 of the Dominion of Canada In case they are employed on Shares their
 Monthly Wages will average from thirty to thirty five Dollars per Month
 many get for the trip lasting for about three Months from one hundred
 and twenty to One hundred and fifty Dollars.

They the American fishermen very seldom make use of our shore for
 Curing their fish or drying Nets.

The Mackerel fishing during the last four or five Years has very much fallen off, during that time the Average Catch has at most only been about one half of what it was ten or twelve Years ago. There is no boat fishing done by the Americans worth mentioning on these Shores. I have seen occasionally a few American vessels the beginning of June arrive at the fishing grounds but the great body or belt of them don't arrive until July.

And I William Harvey aforesaid do solemnly declare that I conscientiously declare that the Statements made in the foregoing declaration are true and I make this Solemn declaration by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th Year of Her Majestys Reign entitled an Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra judicial Oaths.

Aulds Cove, Nova Scotia June 11. 1877

WILLIAM HARVEY

In presence of

JAMES G. McKEEN

Justice of the Peace.

No. 142.

Donald McEachren being duly sworn, says.

My name is Donald McEachren I am fifty two years old I am a British Subject reside at New Town Strait of Canso. have since fifteen hundred and fifty been employed as a fisherman every Season with the Exception of two on board of American fishing Schooners. about ten or twelve summers I was shipped in the United States. the Vessels or Schooners in which I was employed fished for Mackerel and Cod on the Coast of Prince Edward Island. Cape Breton New Brunswick Province of Quebec and the Magdalen Islands. We often fished alongside of Colonial Vessels the American fleet being alongside of them did not interfere with the Catch of Mackerel or Cod by Colonial Vessels, on the Contrary, on account of the great quantity of bait thrown out by the American fishermen the Mackerel stay longer on the surface of the Water and bite better than they do when Colonial Vessels are alone because the latter throw out much smaller quantity of bait, therefore the Colonial Vessels catch more Mackerel when alongside of an American fleet, the Colonial Vessels are in the habit of following the American Vessels on the fishing grounds for the reasons stated during the last two Seasons the Americans have visited the Colonial Waters in much smaller numbers than formerly because there own fishing grounds have become very productive that is they have always been very good but of late years they Americans have got into the habit of some fishing which they may use in deep water and is the most profitable way of catching Mackerel. Mackerel is found in great abundance in deep Water on the American Coast.

Independent of the number of American fishing Vessels there will perhaps be a series of year when Mackerel will appear in great quantities on some Shores, then almost disappear from these Coasts for another Series of Years or Seasons and thereupon reappear in as great quantities as ever, the causes for that may be many but are not known. Mackerel are very uncertain in their movements.

During the last three years the average number of American fishing Vessels in the entire Atlantic Provincial Waters excepting those of Newfoundland have been about One hundred and fifty Sails that is, that Summer was engaged in Mackerel fishing during the last year there were only about Seventy five Sail of American Mackerel fishermen in the fishing grounds just mentioned during the five Years previous to the last

three Years the average number of American Mackerel fishing Vessels was within the same Waters that I have just named between four and five hundred. The average tonnage of an American fishing Vessel is about Seventy five Tons

Codfishing is not carried on by the American fishing Vessels within three miles from shore

I do not know what the expences are of an averaged sized vessel of Seventy five Tons would be for another outfit received in the Provinces on proceeding again to the fishing grounds after having landed her fare in the Provincial Ports for reshipment but the average amount expended by the American fishing fleet in the Provinces would be about three hundred Dollars for Each Vessel per season independent of that portion of the fleet which land their Cargoes in the Provinces and incur large outlays in refitting for another trip or fare of Mackerel.

For Number one and two Mackerel and Number one Salmon caught by Colonial fishermen the United States are the only Market, the same may be said of fat Herring during the last few years. formerly a small proportion of them went to Quebec and Montreal

The Americans do not use the Coast of the British Provinces except Newfoundland for drying Net, or Curing fish

About two thousand Provincial fishermen have been employed pr Season during the last ten Years on board American fishing Vessels Among these are about five hundred from Prince Edwards Island the others to the greater extent from Nova Scotia

The presence of American fishermen on our Coasts has in my Opinion been a great advantage to the people of the Provinces

And I Donald McEachren aforesaid do solemnly declare on Oath that I conscientiously believe that the Statements made in the foregoing declaration are true, so help me God

DONALD MCEACHERN

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

At Pictou, Nova Scotia, Port Hastings Agency June 9th. 1877

I hereby certify that the foregoing and above Affidavit was duly made before me on the 9th. day of June 1877 by the above named Donald McEachren and on said day signed and sworn to before me by him the said McEachern.

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul at Pictou.

No. 143.

Solemn Declaration of Richard Jackman concerning the Fisheries in Canadian and American Waters.

Richard Jackman says that he resides near to Port Mulgrave on the West side of the Strait of Canso I am a fisherman by occupation Am thirty Six Years of age went fishing when I was ten years old have been engaged fishing on board of American fishing Vessels after Codfish and Mackerel about twenty one years and five Seasons in Colonial fishing vessels. I was Master of American fishing Vessels four Season and three Seasons Master of Colonial fishing Vessels. I used to go the first part of the Year Codfishing and the latter part Mackereling. I went generally to the Grand Banks Western Banks and Gulf of St Lawrence for Codfish and to the Gulf of St Lawrence and along the American Shore for Mackerel. I went in American fishing Vessels to the Georges Banks for Codfish Seven Winters

Mackerel first appear in the Spring about the first of April off the American Coast near Cape Henry where they are generally caught or taken in Seines and from there they follow the American Coast Eastwardly to Cape Cod and from there they scatter, part remaining around the American Coast and part going Eastwardly along the Nova Scotia Coast and entering the Gulf of St. Lawrence about the first of June.

Mackerel are taken with Seines in large quantities on the American Coast the last few Years formerly they were caught with hooks.

The American fishermen generally commence taking Mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence or other parts of the Atlantic Coast of British North America about the tenth of June and continue fishing until about the first of November.

More than half the Mackerel caught along the Coasts of British North America during the last ten Years by both Colonial and American fishing Vessels were taken outside of three Miles from the Shore.

About ten Years ago there were upwards of three hundred American fishing Vessels passed through the Strait of Canso into the Gulf of St. Lawrence every season for the purpose of Catching Mackerel & Cod-fish five years ago there probably two hundred vessels. Since that time the number has been decreasing until last year when there only about Seventy Sail of American fishing Vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The average size of American fishing Vessels is about Seventy Tons, such a Vessel when new would cost to build and rig about Six to seven thousand Dollars and a vessel of the same would cost to build and rig in the Provinces about three thousand to four thousand Dollars.

The only fish the American catch inshore on the Atlantic Colonial Coasts are Mackerel. The most of the American Mackerel fishermen now Catch Mackerel on their own coast only.

I believe that the right to fish on the American Coast would be as valuable to the people of the British Provinces as the Colonial fisheries to Americans provided our people had as good vessels and fitted them out as well and had as much enterprise as the Americans. The presence of American fishermen in the Provinces is of great pecuniary gain and advantage to our people in consequence of said fishermen purchasing in our Ports large supplies of Provisions Bait Salt and fresh Barrels Salt Wood Ice and all kinds of fishermen's supplies and occasionally making repairs to their Vessels requiring Cables Anchors Canvas Cordage Spars &c. &c. From my experience I believe that the average expenditure of American fishing Vessels in the British Provinces during the whole season would be upwards of Seven hundred Dollars.

The American fishermen make little or no use of the privilege of curing their fish and drying their nets on the Coast of the Province.

The bait used for Catching Mackerel comes from the United States consists of Pogies and Clams and is taken almost entirely on the American Coast. Colonial fishing Vessels use the same kind of bait and obtain it from the United States. Pogies are taken nearly altogether in Seines and within three miles of the land.

I was born in the Strait of Canso and am a British Subject.

And I Richard Jackman aforesaid do Solemnly declare that I conscientiously believe that the Statements made by me in the foregoing declaration are true and I make this Solemn declaration by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th Year of Her Majesty's Reign entitled an Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra judicial Oaths.

RICHARD JACKMAN

I the undersigned Notary Public Do hereby Certify that on the 11th day of June 1877 personally appeared before me the above named Richard Jackman and then and there made and subscribed the above and foregoing declaration as Witness my hand and Seal of Office at Port Mulgrave the day and year above mentioned

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 144.

Statement of Thomas Chas Smith of Port Hood Island concerning fisheries made June 8th. 1877.

My name is Thomas Chas Smith, am about 55 years old, have always resided on Port Hood Island, I have been engaged in fishing since I was a boy, have never sailed on American fishing schooners—my fishing has almost exclusively *boat* fishing between and along the Coasts of Cape Breton & Pr. Edwr Island the American fishermen have come less and less during the last 5 years to these fishing grounds—I am convinced that the presence of Am. fishing schooners has pecuniarily greatly benefited the people of this Province and that the American fishing fleet has never interfered with, that is, lessened the catch of Colonial fishermen of mackerel or other fish on the contrary I believe that the presence of the American fishing fleet on account of their throwing out such a great quantity of best bait has attracted the mackerel to these parts and that when the Americans were so much interfered with by Dominion Revenue Cutters some years ago and thereby and by other molestations partly driven away from these waters, the mackerel began to leave us to, not be able to obtain as much excellent food as when the Americans threw out so much bait. Where from 8 to 10 years ago and before that time a hundred barrels of mackerel caught there are now & have been during the last 3 years scarcely 10 barrels caught. The Americans do not take to *boat* fishing, their way of mackerel fishing is by schooners. The American fishermen do not cure their fish on our shores and but exceptionally dry their nets on our grounds. Hundred of cattle and great quantities of all kinds of farm produce were sold during the season to the Americans while they were coming here in great numbers and money circulated freely in consequence but I am not able to make an estimate of how much they spent on an average during the season either per single vessel or in the aggregate.

THOMAS SMITH

Subscribed & sworn to before me June 8. 1877

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

No. 145.

Solemn Declaration of Asberry Strahan concerning the Fisheries in Canadian and American Waters

Asberry Strahan says that he resides near Aulds Cove on the Western side of the Strait of Canso, am a fisherman by occupation, am now fifty years of Age, am a British Subject, my home has always been in Nova Scotia where I was born, I have been thirty seven Summers fishing, thirty two Summers of which, I was fishing in American Vessels and five Summers in Colonial Vessels

The first few Years I went fishing in American Vessels, was for Cod-fish, in the Gulf of St Lawrence, always outside of three miles from

shore. then I went fishing for Mackerel in American Vessels, into the Gulf of St Lawrence, the last three years I have been engaged Seining Mackerel on the American Coast in United States Vessels, and found Mackerel plentiful, I was fishing on Shares as a hand on board, the general length of the fishing Season is about five months, the first summer I was Seining Mackerel, I cleared two hundred and fifteen Dollars, the second season three hundred and Sixty two Dollars, and the last season two hundred and sixty Dollars, averaging Each season two hundred and Seventy nine Dollars or fifty five Dollars pr Month clear of boarding

The bait used for catching Mackerel comes from the United States, consists of Pogies or Menhaden and Clams, and is taken almost entirely along the American Coast, Colonial fishing vessels use the same kind of bait as American fishing vessels, and obtain it from the United States, Pogies are taken nearly altogether in Seines and within three Miles of the land,

Ten to twelve Years ago about three hundred American fishing vessels frequented the Gulf of St Lawrence after Mackerel, and generally obtained good fares, taking from one to three fares each season, and frequently landing their first and second trips or fares in the Strait of Canso, or in Prince Edwards Island for reshipment to the United States, by Steamer or Sailing Vessel, Mackerel have been getting scarcer in the Gulf of St. Lawrence every Year during the last four or five Years,

The American Mackerel fishermen purchase large quantities of Supplies in the Provinces, such as Salt, Barrels, Bait, Clothing, provisions, Wood, Small Stores, and all kinds of fishing supplies, and occasionally require large outlays in repairs to their vessels, the average expenditure by the American Mackerel fishermen in the British Provinces during the productive seasons would I have no doubt be upward of Seven hundred Dollars each pr Season which would in the aggregate amount to two hundred and ten thousand Dollars (\$210,000) from the Mackerel fleet pr season

The Codfishing fleet of American vessels also purchase supplies largely in the Provinces such as Ice, fresh Herring and Mackerel for baiting their vessels, Clothing, Wood, provisions, small Stores &c with occasional repairs, the average expenditure of the Codfishing fleet would be about three hundred and fifty Dollars to four hundred for each vessel pr season, there are about One hundred American Codfishing Vessels calling and obtaining Supplies in the Strait of Canso. I cannot give an opinion of the amount of Supplies they purchase in other ports of the British Provinces,

The entire fleet of American fishing Vessels give employment on board their vessels to a great many of the people of this Province, I should say that during the last ten Years on an average that six to Seven hundred of our men found employment on board of American fishing Vessels yearly The presence of American fishermen in our Ports is of great pecuniary gain to our people, in consequence of the large Amountts of Supplies they purchase in our Ports, and the great number of our Men employed in American fishing Vessels

The American fishermen make very little use of the privilege of curing fish and drying nets &c on our shores,

When Mackerel were plentiful in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, they were taken nearly all over the Gulf, Wherever bait was thrown Mackerel would generally appear on the surface, and more Mackerel were taken outside than inside three Miles from the Shore

I believe that the right to fish on the American Coast would be as

valuable to the Colonial fishermen as the Colonial fisheries to Americans, provided our people had as good vessels as well fitted and had as much Capital and enterprise as the Americans

And I Asberry Strahan aforesaid do solemnly declare that I conscientiously believe that the Statements made in the foregoing declaration are true and I make this declaration by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th. Year of Her Majestys Reign Entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths

BERRY STRAHAN

I hereby Certify that on the 9th day of June 1877 above named Berry Strahan personally appeared before me and made and subscribed the foregoing Solemn Declaration As witness my hand & seal of Office

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 146.

PORT HOOD ISLAND, C. B. June 7th, 1877.

Statement of Nathaniel Smith of Port Hood Island.

I am 58 years old, have always lived on Port Hood Island following cod and mackerel fishing since I began to grow up—during the last 10 years the mackerels have much less frequented the Gulf of St Lawrence their number has much decreased and during the last 3 years the catch of mackerel has been almost a failure—We hardly ever see the Americans fish in boats. I don't think the catch of mackerel in these waters has decreased on account of the fishing of the American fishermen. The Americans as far as I know never land of the adjacent shores to cure fish and but seldom to dry nets—codfishing is not carried on by the Americans within 3 miles from shore or at least extremely seldom; I have never been employed as a fisherman on American vessels—The Americans while the catches were good put considerable money into circulation in this neighbourhood but I have no idea of the aggregate amount or of the average expenditure of a single vessel. I solemnly declare that the above statement of facts is correct and make this declaration conscientiously believing that said facts are true and under the act of 37 Victoria entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths.

N SMITH

Port Hood Island June 7 1877

Declaration made and subscribed before

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S Consul

No. 147.

Solemn Declaration by Hugh Cameron concerning the Fisheries in Canadian & American Waters made at Port Hastings Strait of Canso N. S. this 5th day of June 1877

Hugh Cameron says that he resides at New Town on the East side of the Strait of Canso, am a British subject fiftytwo Years old, am acquainted with the American and Canadian Atlantic Sea Fisheries.

For the last three years there has been more or less of a failure in the Catch of Codfish Mackerel and Herring in the Waters of the Gulf of

St. Laurence no Codfish are Caught inside the Waters of the Atlantic Sea Coast of the Dominion of Canada except in the Gulf of St. Laurence the falling off in the Catch of Codfish has been about in the following proportion, that while it now takes a Vessel of Sixty Tons to catch a thousand Quintle of Codfish about ten Weeks it would take the same Vessel about Eight Weeks to Obtain the same quantity of fish ten years ago, about twenty Years ago it would take six Weeks, and about thirty years ago about five Weeks to Obtain the same quantity of fish in the same sized vessel

The Catch of Mackerel in the Gulf of St Laurence has gone down about two thirds at any rate from what it was before that time four years ago five years ago a vessel during the season would take in a fare and a half or Cargo and half. ten years ago a vessel would take in about two Cargoes or fares about twenty Years ago about three Cargoes or fares

I have been employed as a fisherman on board of American fishing Vessels ever since I was Eighteen Years old with the Exception of three Seasons when I did not go fishing, and another Season that I was on board a Colonial fishing Vessel I have never known American fishing Vessels, curing fish or drying their Nets on shore. Except those vessels taking Herrings at the Magdalens Islands where they dry their Seines on Shore The Americans do not use the inshore fisheries at all for the Catching of Codfish There is more mackerel caught outside the three Mile limit than inside, as near as I can judge about two thirds of all Mackerel caught by Americans are caught from three to six Miles from Shore

Mackerel fishing now begins off the Coast of New Jersey. fishing Vessels follow the fish in their run Eastward to the State of Maine and thence to the Coasts of the British Provinces about from two thirds to three quarters of the mackerel remain during their run North Eastward from New Jersey to the Gulf of St. Lawrence over three Miles from Shore, opposite the Southern Coast of Nova Scotia only a very small portion of the Mackerel during their course Eastward come nearer to the shore than six Miles for the purpose of playing during fine Weather

During the Seasons when Mackerel and Codfish were plenty there were in the Course of the Season in the Gulf of St Lawrence about four hundred American Mackerel fishing Vessels and about two hundred and fifty to three hundred American Codfishing Vessels according to present measurement the tonnage of American fishing Vessels referred to were from thirty to ninety Tons the average would be about fifty five to fifty Eight Tons—for an averaged sized Vessel for Codfishing the number of the Crew would be about ten, and the number of Crew for a Mackerel Catcher would be sixteen and the Crew of a Vessel of average size after Herrings would be about six hands

For about ten Years I shipped on board American fishing Vessels in the United States generally during the month of April and continued in them until the close of the season about the 1st of November and the other Seasons I shipped in the American Vessels at the Strait of Canso. during these Seasons these Vessels were supplied in the Several Ports of the British Provinces from Yarmouth all the way to Port Daniel in the Bay Cheleur with all kinds of outfits such as Provisions Salt Barrels Bait ice Clothing small Stores and occasionally with Rigging Canvas Anchors and repairs to vessels spar booms &c. &c

From what I have seen and heard during my Experience I should think that the average expenditure of American fishing vessels in the British Provinces during the whole Season would be upwards of Seven

hundred Dollars out of every hundred Vessels frequenting the Gulf of St Laurence fishing about Seven or Eight would require more or less repairs the proper proportion of which is included in my Estimate

In my opinion the coming of American fishing Vessels to our shores has no influence whatever in lessening the Catch of Mackerel of the Colonial fishing Vessels

The difference in fitting out and furnishing for a fishing Voyage an American Vessel as compared with a Colonial fishing Vessel would be about twenty five pr Cent. the American Vessel costing that much more than the other

I believe that the right to fish on the American Coast would be as valuable to the people of the British Provinces as the Colonial fisheries are to the Americans provided our people had as good Vessels and fitted them out as well and had as much enterprise as the Americans.

And I Hugh Cameron aforesaid do solemnly declare that I conscientiously believe that the statements made in the foregoing declaration are true and I make this declaration by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th Year of Her Majestys Reign entitled an act for the suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths

HUGH CAMERON

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

}

PORT HASTINGS NOVA SCOTIA

June 7th 1877

Personally come and appeared before me the subscribing Justice of the Peace for the County of Inverness, Hugh Cameron of New Town who did acknowledge before me that he Voluntarily made and subscribed the foregoing solemn Declaration

JAMES G. McKEEN

Justice of the Peace

No. 148.

Memorandum of remarks made by James Johnson concerning Canadian Fisheries

James Johnson says that he resides at Port Hastings Cape Breton, I am a fisherman by occupation from 1853 to 1876 with the exception of one season I have been employed as a fisherman on Board American fishing Schooners on or near the Coast of British North America i e the Atlantic British Coast I went chiefly from Gloucester Massachusetts—once however from New London I have been mostly engaged in Mackerel fishing in the Bay of Cheleur, North Cape Prince Edwards Island, between the latter and Cape Breton

American fishermen generally commence taking Mackerel in the Gulf of St. Laurence or other parts of the Atlantic Coast of British North America about the 15th of June and continue fishing until about the 1st of November, the average voyage being about six Weeks in length.

The Colonial fishermen when fishing inshore, alongside of an American fleet of fishing Vessels catch more fish on account of the American Vessels throwing large quantities of Bait Fishing Vessels of the same size in the United States would cost about Sixty per Cent more than Colonial built Vessels and the Outfit about one quarter more than in the Colonies, the only fish the Americans Catch in shore on the Atlantic Colonial Coasts are Mackerel. The most of the American Mackerel fishermen now Catch Mackerel on their own Coast only, there were

only about thirty sail of American Mackerel fishermen in the Gulf of St. Laurence last season and the Gulf of St. Laurence comprises about all the Mackerel fishing grounds

I believe that the right to fish on the American Coast would be as valuable to the people of the British Provinces as the Colonial fisheries to Americans provided our people had as good Vessels and fitted them out as well and had as much enterprise as the Americans

The Mackerel fishery in the Gulf of St. Laurence has been much less productive during the last six or Seven Years than formerly, formerly and until about ten years ago from two hundred to two hundred and fifty American Vessels for Mackerel used to frequent the Gulf of St. Laurence and obtain fair average Cargoes of Mackerel while in the season of 1876 only about thirty Mackerel fishing Vessels came into the Gulf and the greater part of these made broken voyages

The presence of American fishermen in the Provinces is of great pecuniary benefit to our people

For many years past little or no use has been made of the privilege of curing fish and drying Nets on our Shores by the American fishermen

During the seasons when the Mackerel fisheries were productive as they were ten years ago the American fishermen would get full Cargo within about six Weeks they would then deposit or store at this or neighbouring points on the Strait of Canso to be reshipped to the United States while they would return once or twice more to the fishing grounds to obtain further Cargo during such a season the average Expenditure of a Midling sized Schooner (say 70 Tons) in the Provinces would be about

In consequence of the lesser productiveness of the Mackerel fisheries during the last six or seven Years the American fishing Vessels have seldom taken over one Cargo of Mackerel in the season and frequently have not been half filled and consequently the Expenditures in the Provinces have been proportionably reduced, very few Mackerel having been landed for reshipment to the United States

I am and always have been a British subject residing in the Province of Nova Scotia

And I James Johnson aforesaid do solemnly declare that I conscientiously believe that the facts contained in the foregoing declaration are true and I make this declaration by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th Year of Her Majesty's Reign Entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths.

JAMES JOHNSON.

Port Hastings Nova Scotia }
June 5th 1877 }

I hereby Certify that on the 5th day of June 1877 the above named James Johnson personally appeared before me and made and Subscribed the foregoing Solemn Declaration. As Witness my hand and Seal of Office.

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN
Notary Public

No. 149.

Solemn Declaration by Edward Fox concerning the Fisheries in Canadian & American Waters

Edward Fox says that he resides at Fox Pond on the East side of the Strait of Canso, am a British subject twenty Eight Years old. have fol-

lowed the fishing business for twelve Years. always in American fishing vessels with the Exception of one fishing voyage in a Nova Scotia Vessel

The Colonial fishermen as a rule catch more Mackerel when alongside a fleet of American fishermen which throw out large quantities of bait, the best and principal bait used for Mackerel is nearly all taken off the American Coast and within three miles of the shore so far as I have ever seen, the bait referred to consists of Pogies and Clams nearly all the bait now used by Colonial fishing Vessels is the bait before mentioned by me and is taken along the American Coast

For Number one and two Mackerel, Number One Salmon and fat Herrings the United States are the only Market with the Exception of a small quantity that go to Canada, of the fat Herrings however more are sent to Canada than of the Mackerel or Salmon

The average size of American Mackerel and Codfishing Vessels engaged fishing on the Colonial Coasts is from sixty-five to Seventy Tons the Catch of Mackerel in the Gulf of St. Laurence during the last six or seven Years has been gradually decreasing, the Season of 1876 being almost a failure in the Catch of Mackerel in Colonial Waters.

Mackerel for some unknown reasons sometimes appear for Series of Years on some Coasts in great numbers and then again for a number of years will appear in decreasing numbers and finally altogether disappear.

Ten Years ago and up to that time there were about two hundred & fifty to three hundred American fishing Vessels passing through the Strait of Canso every season to catch fish in the Chelaur Bay and Coasts of the Gulf of St Laurence Six Years ago there were about two hundred vessels, since that time the number has been greatly decreasing until last Year when the entire fleet of Mackerel fishing Vessels in the Gulf of St Laurence was probably not over fifty vessels

During the Seasons while the catch of Mackerel was very great about a quarter of the fleet of American Mackerel fishermen would land from one to three Cargoes of Mackerel in the Strait of Canso each season for reshipment to the United States. A vessel of Seventy Tons for example having landed a trip of Mackerel requires or usually takes the following supplies before going again to the fishing grounds for another Cargo viz about three hundred Empty barrels worth about Eighty Cents Each from Eighty to one hundred barrels of Salt worth about one Dollar and a quarter Each, twenty five to thirty barrels of Bait worth about five to six Dollars which with provisions and Small Stores about two hundred and fifty Dollars would make in all for the fit out about seven hundred and fifty Dollars and for a Second trip or fit out about five hundred Dollars worth of Supplies would be required, The average expenditure of those American fishing Schooners which visit our Ports without landing Cargoes of fish for reshipment amount to about five hundred Dollars each per season in our Provinces, the average expenditure therefore of the entire Mackerel fleet of American fishing vessels in the British Provinces during the productive Seasons would be about seven hundred Dollars each pr Season

In consequence of the decreased Catch of Mackerel during the last six or Seven Year in the Gulf of St Laurence the expenditure of American fishing Vessels in the British Provinces has been much reduced

The number of American Vessels engaged in the Codfisheries around the Colonial Atlantic Coasts has more than doubled within the last six Years about one hundred of these Codfishing vessels call at one point or another in the Strait of Canso twice during the Season for a supply of ice fresh bait provisions &c the average expenditure for that purpose

being for about ten Tons ice About thirty Dollars and for about a hundred barrels of round Herrings or Mackerel about two hundred Dollars which with about one hundred Dollars for Wood Clothing occasional repairs &c would make in all about three hundred and thirty Dollars for each Vessel pr Season

For many years past little or no use has been made by the American fishermen of the privilege of curing fish and drying Nets on our shores

And I Edward Fox aforesaid do solemnly declare that I conscientiously believe that the Statements made in the foregoing declaration are true and I make this declaration by virtue of the act passed in the 37th Year of Her Majestys Reign Entitled an Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra judicial Oaths

THOMAS EDWARD FOX

Port Hastings Nova Scotia June 6. 1877

In presence of :

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

This is to certify that the above and foregoing Solemn Declaration was duly made before me on the 6th day of June 1877. and subscribed in my presence by the above named Thomas Edward Fox

JAMES G. McKEEN

Justice of the Peace

No. 150.

I, William H. McAlpine do solemnly declare—that I reside at Louisburg, Cape Breton, where I am now and since the year 1866 have been engaged in General merchandizing and of supplying American fishing vessels calling at this Port—that during the last six (6) years the number of vessels calling as aforesaid has averaged at least 100 i. e. American fishing vessels one half of which number are codfishing and the other half herring fishing vessels—that these vessels are in the habit of calling at different Ports of the Maritime Provinces before they call at this Port and of buying supplies at them or at most of them—that the amount expended at this Port by each of said vessels during said period of six years has averaged at least twenty five dollars per season—that about one half of said vessels have been annually supplied by me and the other half by Mr Gardener of this Port and that the supplies for which said expenses were incurred consist of ice, bait, small stores, beef, mutton and occasionally other items to a small extent that I am not aware that the presence of American fishermen in the waters of the Dominion of Canada is of any injury to the people thereof, but I think that their presence is of great pecuniary profit to the maritime Provinces and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th year of the reign of Her Majesty entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths

Louisburg C. B. July 17th 1877.

In presence of

W. H. McALPINE

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA

LOUISBURG C. B. July 17th 1877.

I hereby certify that at said Louisburg on said July 17th the above named William H. McAlpine made before me and subscribed in my presence the foregoing "Solemn Declaration."

Attested:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

No. 151.

I, Joseph Townsend do solemnly declare—that I reside at Louisburg, C. B., that since 1863 I have been employed as Clerk and in the absence of the Principal as the manager of the business of first Mr. William E. Gardener of this place and afterwards of the “Louisburg Supply Company” to which Mr. Gardener transferred or sold his said business—that said business from 1863 up to the present time has been in the habit of supplying American fishing vessels calling at this Port, one half of them about being supplied by the above business in which I was and am employed and one half by Mr Wm. H. McAlpine of this place—that the number of American fishing vessels calling here has averaged during the last 5 or 6 years at least one hundred, one half of them codfishing the other half herring fishing vessels—that the average expenditure per vessel per season during said period has been about \$25, perhaps a little more, at this port—that the American fishing vessels are in the habit of calling at different ports of the Maritime Provinces before they call and after they have called at this port and of buying supplies at all or most of the Ports where they call—that the supplies purchased by them at our Port consist in ice, bait, small stores, beef, mutton and occasionally in other items to a small extent—that I think that the presence of American fishermen on our coasts a great pecuniary advantage to the people thereof i. e. of the Provinces while I am not aware that it, that is the presence of American fishermen on our coasts is in any respect injurious to the interests of the Provinces, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th year of Her Majesty’s reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Louisburg C. B. July 17th 1877.

JOSEPH TOWNSEND

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA

LOUISBURG C. B. July 17th 1877

I hereby certify that at said Louisburg on this 20th day of July 1877 the above named Joseph Townsend made and subscribed before me the foregoing Solemn Declaration

Attested :

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

No. 152.

I, James Peebles of Pirate Cove, Guysboro County do solemnly declare: that I have been a fisherman for the last 33 years I have been employed during that time as well on American as on Nova Scotia fishing vessels, mostly on American vessels prosecuting the Mackerel fishery in the Gulf of St Lawrence, for the last 5 or 6 years I should have said I have not been employed in fishing—according to my experience American fishing vessels make no use or but very little use of the privilege of drying their nets on the Coasts of the Dominion of Canada and do not at all cure their fish on these coasts—I do not think that Provincial fishermen catch less fish on account of having a fleet of American vessels fishing along side of them I rather think the Provincial fishermen catch more fish by fishing alongside of an American fleet because the quantity of bait thrown keeps the fish on the surface of the water—I have been in American fishing vessels prosecuting the fishery in the Gulf of St Lawrence that have spent from 1300 to 1500 dollars per season in the Provinces in case they had to refit after landing their first catch for re shipment

to the States—I went this spring employed as cooper in an American fishing schooner “Stagawa” from Gloucester catching herring at the Magdalen Islands and I know that her bill of expenses at Pirate Cove amounted to about \$600 $\frac{9}{100}$ —during the last 6 or 7 years the mackerel fishery has much fallen off—I think that about one half only of the mackerel that were caught from 10 to 12 years ago have been caught during the last 5 years—the last 2 years the mackerel fishery was a pretty bad failure—I know that very few if any vessel caught enough fish to make more than one trip—I know that the American fishing vessels call at a great many Ports all along the coasts of the Dominion and expend much money in these Ports, formerly Yankee money was about all the money we saw—the presence of American fishermen on the Coasts of these provinces has been a great help to the people of the Provinces—they were in the habit of buying socks, mittens, all kinds of vegetables, mutton beef, store goods and supplies of all kind, their presence was certainly no injury to our people in any respect; I do not think that much fishing will diminish the fish that annually visit the fishing grounds—I rather think that feeding them by throwing out much bait attracts them—seine fishing may injure the fisheries, but the real reason why in some years mackerel are plentiful and in other years scarce is not known, I think that more than one half of the crew of American fishing vessels are natives and residents of the Canadian Provinces; and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th year of Her Majesty’s reign entitled “An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

JAMES PEEPLES

Dated Pirate Cove July 20th, 1877.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT PICTOU N. S.

PIRATE COVE July 20th, 1877.

I hereby certify that on this 20th day of July 1877 the above named James Peebles before me, at said Pirate Cove voluntarily made and subscribed the foregoing Solemn Declaration.

Attested :

OSCAR MALMROS,

U. S. Consul.

No. 153.

I, Samuel Peebles of Pirate Cove, Guysboro County do solemnly declare: that I have been for over 30 years a fisherman I have been nearly every summer been engaged on American fishing vessels fishing in the Gulf of St Lawrence, during the spring and fall I have been engaged in boat fishing on my own account—during the last 8 or 9 years the mackerel fishery has much fallen off—during the last 6 years the catch has not averaged more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of what it was 10 or 15 years ago and during the last two years it has been almost a total failure—I do not think that Provincial fishermen catch any the less fish on account of fishing alongside of an American mackerel fishing fleet on the contrary I think their catch is then greater; I have often seen Provincial fishermen in their boats come out to fish alongside of the American fleet because they would catch a greater quantity by following the fleet than they would by remaining in-shore—American fishermen make but little use of the coasts of these Provinces for drying nets and none for curing fish—I know that American fishermen call at a great many ports of the Canadian Provinces and that they buy more or less at every port where they call; they buy beef, mutton, all kinds of vegetables, store goods

of all descriptions, homespun cloth, mittens & socks &c and I am of the opinion that on account of the money they spend they have very materially benefitted the people of these Provinces while I am not aware that their presence on the coasts of the Dominion has in any respect been injurious to the interests of its inhabitants—I think that about one half of the crew of the American fishing fleet is composed of natives and residents of the Maritime Provinces—All fat mackerel as far as I know goes to the United States and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Pirate Cove July 20th 1877.

SAMUEL P PEEPLES

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT

PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA

PIRATE COVE July 20th 1877.

I hereby certify that at Pirate Cove, County of Guysboro', Nova Scotia, the above named Samuel A. Peeples, on this 20th day of July 1877 voluntarily made before me and subscribed in my presence the foregoing "Solemn Declaration.

Attested:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

No. 154.

I, Isaiah Crittenden do solemnly declare that I am a British subject, a native of Nova Scotia and living at Pirate Cove Guysboro' County Nova Scotia I am 42 years old and have been employed in fishing every summer since I was 13 years old, during the last 27 summers I have always been engaged as one of the crew of American fishing vessels; the American fishing vessels hardly ever dry their nets or cure fish on the Coasts of the Dominion of Canada about 40 to 50 American herring fishing vessels have annually visited the coasts of the Provinces of the Dominion of Canada their crew is about 7 or 8 men each vessel—their catch per vessel has been about 600 barrels during the last 6 years each season—from 8 to 10 years back the American mackerel fishing fleet consisted of from 300 to 500 sails per season in the Gulf of St Lawrence the mackerel fishing vessels average about 12 to 14 men as a crew during the last 6 years and particularly the last 2 the mackerels have been getting very scarce the reason being according to my opinion and that of many old fishermen that the scarcity of bait found by the mackerel induced them to go to other grounds—the bait was scarce because the American fishing fleet had been driven away by the Dominion Revenue Cutters during the fishery troubles of 1870 or I think it was 1871 from that time the mackerel fishery began to fall off—the same falling off took place when the Revenue Vessels of Great Britain interfered with the American fishermen about the years 1853 or 1855 and the Americans in consequence resorted in but small numbers to the Gulf of St Lawrence—during the last 5 years according to the best estimate I can form the American fishing fleet fishing for mackerel in the Gulf of St Lawrence has consisted of about 250 sails during the season that is if I strike an average of their number during that period—the American mackerel fishing vessels begin to arrive in the Gulf of St Lawrence about the beginning of June in each year in small numbers, but the greater number arrive only after the first week in July or even as

late as the beginning of August—the herring fishing vessels arrive at the Magdalen Islands about the 1st of May, they remain there as a rule about 2 to 3 weeks unless the fish happen to be scarce there when they often go to the coast of Newfoundland—Generally the herring fleet makes but one trip a season and after their return home fish off the American coast for cod or mackerel or sometimes they go to the Gulf of St Lawrence—the American herring vessels have considerably benefited the People on this Strait, besides buying supplies of all kinds, they nearly all hire from two to three boats to go with them to the Magdalen Islands paying about 30 dollars a trip for a man and his boat and ten dollars a boat without a man, the average number of the crew of American herring fishing vessels when they arrive at the Strait consists of from 4 to 5 men and the hire the rest here paying about \$20 a man for the run to the Magdalen Islands and back—the mackerel fishing vessels expend likewise a great deal of money in the Maritime Provinces as they call at a great many ports and spend money in every port—as long as I can remember has the trade of the merchants on the Strait of Canso principally consisted in selling goods of all kinds to American fishermen and the people of the Strait of Canso would have seen but very little money if it had not been for the money spent by American fishing vessels—On the whole I don't think that provincial fishermen get a smaller catch of fish on account of the presence of American mackerel fishing vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence—Generally and almost without exception the fishing of American Mackerel fishing vessels up to the middle of August or beginning of September is done outside the 3 mile limit from shore and after that until the latter part of October they mostly fish inshore—the only fishing prosecuted by American fishermen off the Coasts of the Dominion of Canada is the herring, the mackerel and the codfishing, the codfish is all caught outside the limits, off shore. During the times when mackerel fishing was still good the American fishing vessels would ship from 300 to 350 men each season from the Strait of Canso and Cape Bre'on I think that the crew of American fishing vessels is composed of about $\frac{1}{2}$ natives of the Maritime Provinces who continue to reside in the Provinces and are British subjects—In my opinion the outfitting of an American fishing vessel for the Gulf of St Lawrence costs about \$300 to \$400 more than the outfitting of a fishing vessel of the same tonnage in the Province of Nova Scotia; And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed in the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths.

Dated Pirate Cove July 21st 1877.

ISAIAH CRITTENDEN

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT
PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA

PIRATE COVE July 21st 1877.

I hereby certify that on this 21st day of July 1877 at Pirate Cove, Guysboro' County, Nova Scotia, the above named Isaiah Crittenden voluntarily made before me and subscribed in my presence the above and foregoing "Solemn Declaration."

Attested :

OSCAR MALMROS,
U. S. Consul

No. 155.

I, E. Aug. Crittenden at Pirate Cove, Strait of Canso do solemnly declare that: I have followed the business of fishing for 44 seasons, I am a British subject & have always resided in Nova Scotia—that during the whole period of 44 years I have every summer been employed in American fishing vessels that during the last six years the mackerel fisheries in the Gulf of St Lawrence have much fallen off; it has during those six years certainly been not more than one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of what it was before; the cause of this falling off is I think entirely unknown—the annual number of American fishing vessels of every description in the Gulf of St Lawrence during the last 5 years has averaged I think 50 sails fifty sails while ten years ago or longer they numbered from 400 to 500 sails—the average tonnage of an American fishing vessel is about sixty (60) tons, a vessel of this size is manned by a crew of 13 to 14 men; fully one half of the crew of the American fishing vessels are subjects of and residents of the Dominion of Canada;—the American make hardly any use of the privilege of drying nets and curing fish on the Coasts of the Dominion—I do not believe from my experience that the catch of Provincial fishermen is smaller when fishing alongside of an American fishing fleet on the contrary I think that more fish are brought to the surface and caught when a number of vessels are fishing together—during the last two or three years the American herring fishing fleet in the waters on the coasts of the Dominion have numbered about 20 to 25 a year, in former years it numbered about 40 or 50 sails—during the last 3 years the herring fishing Am. vessels have averaged per vessel about 400 to 500 barrels per vessel, in former years that is 8 or 10 years ago they averaged about one thousand barrels the codfish caught by the Americans is all caught outside of a line three (3) miles from shore—the halibut or other fish caught by Americans off the coasts of the Dominion of Canada is totally insignificant and not worth mentioning—the American fishermen expend a great deal of money in the Provinces for beef, mutton, potatoes & other vegetables and supplies of every description as they are in the habit of visiting many ports of the Dominion in succession from the time they leave the American coast until they arrive on the fishing grounds and during the whole season while they are in the Gulf of St Lawrence and they are buying more or less at every port they call at—I think the average expenditure of a seventy ton American fishing vessel in the several ports of the maritime Province may be safely estimated at \$200 per season, unless they land their fare for re-shipment to the States in which case the expenses for a re-outfit would be of course much larger—a fishing vessel of a size which costs here about \$500 would cost about \$1500 to \$1600 in the States and the outfit in the States is at least $\frac{1}{3}$ higher than the cost of outfitting a fishing vessel of the same tonnage in Nova Scotia—I think that the presence of American fishermen on the coasts of the maritime Provinces is a great pecuniary benefit to them i. e. the Provinces and not in any respect injurious to the interests of the People of the Provinces; and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of her Majestys reign entitled “An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extrajudicial oaths.

Dated Pirate Cove July 19th 1877.

his
E. AUG. + CRITTENDEN
mark

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT
 PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA
 PIRATE COVE July 19th 1877

I hereby certify that on this 19th day of July 1877 the above named E. Augustus Crittenden at Pirate Cove before me made and subscribed the foregoing "Solemn Declaration."

Attested:

OSCAR MALMROS
U. S. Consul.

No. 156.

I Ebenezer C Peeples of the County of Guysborough in the Province of Nova Scotia Do Solemnly declare that I am a British subject, that I am by occupation a fisherman. Have been fishing in American fishing vessels for the last thirty six Summers during the Spring and fall I have often been engaged fishing in Boats inshore on my own account the Vessels in which I was employed prosecuted the Mackerel fishery in the Bay of St. Lawrence during the last five or six years only about one fourth of the Mackerel were caught during the season that were caught in former Years, say fifteen Years ago and prior to that

According to my estimate three quarters of the Mackerel caught by American fishing vessels are caught outside of the three Mile limit from shore, not more than one quarter being caught inshore

I do not think that the Catch of Provincial fishermen are any the less because an American fleet are fishing in the same vicinity

The cause why mackerel are very plentiful in some seasons and very Scarce in other seasons is not known

At least one half of the Crews of American fishing Vessel are composed of Natives and residents of the Maritime Provinces of Canada

The American fishing fleet derive little or no advantage from the privilege of drying nets and Curing fish on our Coasts as they are not in the habit of making use of the privilege, occasionally they may cure an insignificant quantity of Herrings at the Magdalene Islands

During the last five Years the average number of American Mackerel fishing vessel averaged about two hundred sail in the Gulf of St. Lawrence

The average tonnage of these Vessels is I think about fifty Tons

The presence of American fishing vessels on the Atlantic Coasts of the Dominion has greatly benefited its people owing to the purchase by the American fishermen of supplies of every description and the Employment given on board these vessels to a large number of people belonging to the Provinces

The number of the Crew of an averaged sized American fishing Vessels is about fourteen

The Codfish caught by American fishing Vessels are taken entirely outside the three mile limit

The average number of Crew on board Herring fishing Vessels are about Eight. the Herring caught by these American Vessels is nearly all caught on the Coast of the Magdalene Islands About fifty vessels from the United States go to the Magdalen Island for Herrings every spring. sometimes some of them go the Island of Anticosti and the Newfoundland shore when Herrings are scarce at the Magdalens. The average catch of these vessels have been for the last five Years about seven hundred barrels Herring each Vessel

Mackerel Herring and Codfish are the only fish that as far as I know the Americans are in the habit of catching in the Gulf of St Laurence

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th Year of Her Majestys Reign entitled an act for the suppression of voluntary and extrajudicial Oaths

Pirate Cove Strait Canso July 20. 1877

EBENEZER C PEEPLES

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT

PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA

PIRATE COVE July 20th 1877.

I hereby certify that at Pirate Cove on this 20th day of July 1877 before me and in my presence the above named Ebenezer C. Peeples voluntarily made and subscribed the foregoing "Solemn Declaration.

Attested:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

No. 157.

I, Samuel Peeples of Port Mulgrave on the Strait of Canso do solemnly declare that I am 34 years old that for 16 years up to within 5 years I have been one of the crew of some American Mackerel or cod-fishing vessel—that I am of the opinion that nearly if not fully two thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the crew of American fishing vessels are subjects and inhabitants of the British North American Provinces—that the Provincial fishermen catch quite as many mackerel when fishing alongside of an American Mackerel fishing fleet as they would catch in case there were no American fishing vessels on the Mackerel grounds of the British North American coasts—until within about the last 6 years the American Mackerel fishing vessels began to arrive on the fishing grounds of the Gulf of St Lawrence at the beginning of June but during the last 5 or 6 years but very few arrived until after the 4th of July and during the present season they have but just now arrived in any numbers—the reason why they have during the last 6 years arrived so late in the Gulf of St Lawrence is that the Americans have had a very good catch during the early part of the summer season off their own coasts—up to about the middle of July the mackerel in the Gulf are rather poor they don't begin to fatten until about the middle of July—about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the entire catch of the American Mackerel catching fleet in the Gulf of St Lawrence is caught off-shore that is outside of the 3 mile line from shore and only about $\frac{1}{4}$ is caught inside that limit—the codfish caught by the American cod fishing vessels is all caught outside the 3 mile limit on the grand banks of Newfoundland and other places on the high seas—the Americans do not dry their nets on the coasts of the British North American Provinces or at least but very rarely and do not at all cure their fish on these coasts—I consider the presence of American fishing vessels on our coasts and in our ports as of the greatest benefit to the inhabitants of the Provinces as they spend much money in all the ports where they call and they are in the habit of calling at a great many Provincial Ports in the course of the season in fact when we have not the custom of the American fishing vessels in the Strait of Canso there is but very little business done of any kind and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated at Port Mulgrave July 21st 1877.

SAMUEL H PEEPLES

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA,
PORT MULGRAVE July 21. 1877

This is to certify that at said Port Mulgrave on this 21st day of July the above named Samuel H. Peebles voluntarily made before me and personally subscribed the foregoing "Solemn Declaration.

Attested :

OSCAR MALMROS
U. S. Consul

No. 158.

I, James McNair do solemnly declare that I live at Port Mulgrave on the Strait of Canso—that I am 48 years old—that ever since 1849 I have been fishing every season except the two last seasons, mostly on American vessels but sometimes also on vessels belonging to the Strait of Canso—the Americans do not make use of the coasts of the Dominion of Canada to dry nets or cure fish except that the American herring fishers sometimes dry their seines on the Magdalen Islands—the cod-fishing is carried on by Americans altogether off shore—the proportion of mackerel caught inshore by the Americans averages I think about $\frac{1}{4}$ of their entire catch—I do not think that the Provincial fishermen catch a smaller quantity of mackerel on account of fishing alongside of an American fleet—I think that mackerel fishing by seines ought to be prohibited as it breaks up the schools of mackerel and injures the fishing only a few American vessels however fish with seines—indeed I do not think that fishing with seines is profitable as those at least that the Americans use can not be employed in shore to advantage—the Americans often land their seines because they find the fishing by hook more profitable—I think that at least one half of the crew of Am. fishing vessels are natives of and reside in the several Provinces of the Dominion of Canada—the mackerel fishery has very much fallen off during the last 5 years or so—the reason why the mackerel catch has been poor 2 seasons ago is that during that season the mackerel were very much chased by the horse mackerel a fish from 5 to 8 feet long preying upon the mackerel; the mackerels shift and take new routes during some seasons; they do not regularly return to the breeding grounds like the salmon—they, the mackerel were very plentiful, they say last season on the coasts of Newfoundland while they were scarce in the Gulf of St Lawrence—the only fish caught by Americans off the Atlantic coasts of the Dominion either in-shore or off shore are mackerel, codfish and herring, to a small extent however the Americans prosecute also the halibut fishing—they do not employ more than from 6 to 8 vessels in halibut fishing and these generally fish off the Coasts of Anticosti And I do make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majestys reign entitled "An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Port Mulgrave July 21.st 1877.

JAMES MCNAIR

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT PICTOU N. S.
PORT MULGRAVE July 21st 1877.

I hereby certify that the above named James McNair on this 21st day of July 1877, at Port Mulgrave, personally made before me and subscribed in my presence voluntarily the above "Solemn Declaration.

Attested :

OSCAR MALMROS
U. S. Consul

No. 159.

I, John Murray, do solemnly declare that I was born and always have been living at Port Mulgrave on the Strait of Canso ; that I am 49 years of age—that since I was 19 years of age I have been engaged in fishing during the summer seasons—that with the exception of two seasons I have always shipped in American fishing vessels during those 2 season I was in Provincial vessels—the Americans do not dry their nets on the coasts of the Dominion except occasionally for half a day nor do they cure their fish on these coasts—the crew is about $\frac{1}{2}$ composed of natives of the British North American Provinces who are still residing in the Provinces and are of course british subjects—the Americans catch all their codfish on the banks or off-shore. I do not think that Provincial fishermen catch any smaller number of fish on account of fishing alongside of American fleets of mackerel fishers—the mackerel fishery has much fallen off during the last 5 years and especially during the last 2 years it has almost been an entire failure—the cause of the falling off of the mackerel fishery is not known—during the present season mackerel promise to be in fair quantities in the Gulf of St Lawrence from all I have lately heard—the American fishermen i. e. mackerel fishers begin to come in June but of late years they don't arrive on the fishing grounds in any number until after the 4th of July—the mackerel are poor until after they have spawned that is about the middle of July—they are just getting fat now—the Americans catch by far the larger quantity of mackerel outside of the three mile line from shore, I should not think that the Americans catch more than one fourth of their entire catch of mackerel in-shore that is inside the 3 mile limit—the cost of outfit of American vessels engaged in the fisheries is considerably higher than that of Provincial fishing vessels, their outfit is much better too than that of the Provincials—fat mackerel and fat herring caught by Provincial fishing vessels are nearly all sold in the United States, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Port Mulgrave July 21st. 1877.

JOHN MURRAY

UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT PICTOU, N. S.

PORT MULGRAVE July 21st 1877.

I hereby certify that at Port Mulgrave on this 21st day of July the above named John Murray voluntarily made before me and subscribed in my presence the foregoing "Solemn Declaration."

Attested :

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul.

No. 160.

I, John H. Ingraham, of North Sydney, Cape Breton, Merchant and Trader, do solemnly depose and say :

That I have been doing business as a trader and general merchant at North Sydney, Cape Breton, for the last twenty years.

During that period the port of Sydney has been visited annually by a number of vessels engaged in prosecuting the cod and mackerel fishery, belonging to the United States of America. Within the last five

years the average number of American fishing vessels frequenting this port has been not less than fifty annually.

The expenditure of the said American fishing fleet with me as a merchant during the last five years has been as follows :

In 1872, for Salt.....	121.
" Supplies	511.
	<hr/>
	\$632
In 1873 for Bait.....	15
" Salt	110.
" Supplies	2475
	<hr/>
	\$2600
In 1874, for Salt.....	83.
" Bait	12
" Sundries.....	2590
	<hr/>
	\$2685
In 1875 for salt.....	17.
" sundries.....	1980
	<hr/>
	\$1997.
In 1876 for salt.....	44
" bait.....	27.
" sundries.....	2100
	<hr/>
	\$2171

There are no fishing vessels employed at present out of this port, the fishery being entirely conducted by shore boats, and fishermen earn only a precarious living

According to my Experience nearly one half of the crews of American fishing vessels frequenting this port are natives of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton.

I consider that the presence of American fishing vessels on our grounds, is of great pecuniary benefit to this country.

Dated at North Sydney C. B. this 18th day of July 1877

JOHN L INGRAHAM

Sworn to before me

B. ARCHIBALD J. P

No. 161.

I. William H. Moore, of North Sydney Cape Breton, Merchant and Trader, do solemnly depose and say :

That I have been doing business as a trader and General Merchant at North Sydney Cape Breton for the last twenty years.

During that period the port of Sidney has been visited annually by a number of vessels engaged in prosecuting the Cod and Mackerel fishery, belonging to the United States of America. Within the last five years the average number of American fishing vessels frequenting this port has not been less than fifty annually.

The expenditure of the said American fishing fleet with me as a Merchant during the last five years has been as follows:

In 1872, for Supplies.....	100.
" 1873 for Supplies.....	3314.
" Bait & Salt.....	180
	<hr/> 3494.
" 1874 " Supplies.....	80.
" 1875 " Supplies.....	862.
" 1876 " Supplies.....	81.

There are no fishing vessels employed out of this port. The fishery is prosecuted to some extent at this port, but altogether by Shore boats, and fishermen make only a precarious living.

According to my experience nearly one half of the crews of American fishing Vessels frequenting this port are natives of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton.

I consider that the presence of American fishing vessels on our grounds is of great pecuniary benefit to this country.

Dated at North Sydney C. B. this 18th day of July 1877.

W. H. MOORE

Sworn to before me.

B. ARCHIBALD J. P.

No. 162.

I Allan McDonald do solemnly declare that I was born and am living about 1 mile from Cape Jack Antigonish County, Nova Scotia—I am 41 years of age—I have been mackerel fishing for about the last 25 years partly in American and partly in Provincial vessels—I do not think that Americans dry their nets or cure their fish or but seldom on the coasts of the British Provinces—the codfish caught by American vessels is caught on the banks or other places on the high seas, at any rate they catch them but seldom in-shore—the only fish caught by Americans off the Coasts of British America are codfish, mackerel halibut and herring—during good seasons the American mackerel fleet in the Gulf of St Lawrence consists of about (500) five hundred sails but during the last few years there were but few, the catch of mackerel having much fallen off—last year I don't think there were more than sixty American Mackerel fishing vessels in the Gulf and I don't think that they have averaged more during the last three years—the American herring fleet on the Atlantic coasts of the British Provinces has averaged during the last 5 years from 30 to 40 sails a season—I have never seen more than 10 to 12 sails of American halibut fishing vessel off the Coasts of the British Provinces the American codfishing fleet on the grand banks of Newfoundland is large, I have seen there as many as four hundred vessels at a time—I have been codfishing, herring fishing and mackerel fishing, we often go out early in spring codfishing or herring fishing and afterwards mackerel fishing in the Gulf—I know from my own experience that all these American fishing vessels that I have mentioned are in the habit of calling each at different ports in the Provinces during each season and of leaving very considerable money in each port they call at—I think I have a pretty correct idea of what their expenses amount to and according to my estimate the average expenses of an American fishing vessel in the several ports of the British Provinces amount during the season to about three hundred or four hundred dollars—I should judge that about one half of the crew of the

American fishing fleet fishing off the Coasts of the British Provinces consist of natives who are at the same time residents of the Provinces and I do not refer to those who have removed their residence to Gloucester and other places in the United States—I do not think that the presence of the American fishing vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence lessens the chances of Colonial fishermen to catch fish on the contrary my experience has taught me that mackerel are more easily perceived when there are fishing vessels distributed all over the Gulf, then when they rise at one place the others see it by their spy-glasses and join the vessels where the fish rise and all get their share of fish, when there are but few vessels on the fishing grounds they may not at all get to know at what spots to find the mackerel—the latter also rise better when more bait is thrown out than can be done by a few vessels—I have no doubt that the presence of the American fishermen on the coasts of these Provinces has, been of great benefit to them, nearly half our fishermen might almost starve if it was not for the employment given them by the American vessels, And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

. Dated Cape Jack July 24. 1877.

his
ALLAN + McDONALD
mark.

In presence of
JAMES G. McKEEN
OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

I hereby Certify that the above named Allan McDonald voluntarily made and affixed his mark of hand before me at Cape Jack Settlement in Said County of Antigonish the foregoing solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 24th day of July 1877
(Seal.) JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 163.

I, Donald McDonald (Duncan's son) do solemnly declare: that I am living about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile south of Cape Jack Light House in Antigonish County, Nova Scotia—that I am 69 years old and have been fishing for the last 50 years with the exception of one summer and during that year I went out in the fall mackerel fishing—I have been on American and Nova Scotian fishing vessels mackerel and codfishing mostly however mackerel fishing—the American fishermen do not dry their nets or cure their fish on the coasts of the British Provinces—I think that about one half of the crew of the American fishing vessels fishing off the Coasts of the British Provinces are british subjects and residing in these Provinces—I think that Colonial fishing vessels catch pretty nearly as many mackerel when fishing alongside of an American mackerel fleet as when fishing alone or as they would do if there were no American fishing vessels in the Gulf—codfish is all caught by Americans off-shore on the banks of Newfoundland the in-shore fishing by American fishermen on the Coasts of these provinces has not been of any appreciable injury to Colonial fishermen—while the money expended by them on our coasts for beef, mutton, potatoes and other vegetables mittens, socks, homespun cloths and supplies furnished by our merchants has been of

great advantage to our people—that all the fat mackerel and the greater quantity of the fat herring finds its only market in the United States, some of the fat herring goes to Canada—And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of her Majestys reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Cape Jack July 24. 1877.

DONALD ^{his} + McDONALD (Duncan's son)
mark

In presence of
OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH.

I hereby Certify that the above named Donald McDonald (Duncan's Son) voluntarily made and subscribed by affixing his mark before me at Cape Jack Settlement in said County of Antigonish the foregoing Solemn declaration.

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 24th day of July 1877
(Seal.) JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 164.

I Michael Crispo do solemnly declare that I reside at Harbor Bouché Antigonish County, Nova Scotia, that during about 20 years I have been engaged in the fishing business during that period I have owned several fishing vessels during One time I owned 4 fishing vessels—my principal business has been in mackerel but also to some extent in the codfishing business I have exported my fish to Boston New York, Philadelphia, Halifax and Montreal—the United States are the only market for No 1 and No two mackerel and most of the fat herring is sent to the States—since the duty was taken off fish in the States the average profit in the fish business is from 5 to 8 per cent on the capital and labor invested in the business—during the period of say 3 or 5 years preceeding the taking off of the duty on fish in the States my experience has been that money and capital invested in the fishing business has returned hardly any profit, at the least the profit has been a very insignificant one and I make this statement conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of her Majestys reign entitled “An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths

Dated July 25th 1877.

MICHAEL CRISPO

In prsence of:
OSCAR MALMROS
U S Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVASCOTIA
COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

I hereby Certify that the foregoing named Michael Crispo voluntarily made and Subscribed before me at Harbour Bouché in said County of Antigonish the foregoing Solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 25th day of July 1877

(Seal.) JAMES G McKEEN
Notary Public

No. 165.

I Patrick Webb of Harbor Bouché do solemnly declare that I live at said Harbor Bouché, Antigonish County, Nova Scotia, that I have been fishing for Mackerel for some years—I am now engaged in the fish business, I own one fishing vessel myself exclusively and own an interest in three other fishing vessels, I also supply a number of fishermen and they pay me after their trips by giving me their catch of fish at current prices—The best estimate I am able to make at a rough calculation is that the profits of the fish business during the last 5 years have averaged about five per cent per annum on the capital and labor invested in the fisheries I do think that Colonial fishermen catch about as many fish when fishing together with american vessels in the Gulf as when fishing alone I know that the American fishermen in the course of the season call at many of the Colonial harbours and spend much money and I think that on the whole the presence of the American fishermen on our Coasts has been a great pecuniary benefit to the People of the Provinces And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majestys reign entitled An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths

Dated at Harbor Bouché July 25th 1877.

PATRICK WEBB

In presence of

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

I hereby Certify that the above named Patrick Webb voluntarily made and subscribed before me at Harbour Bouché in said County of Antigonish the foregoing solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 25th day July 1877

JAMES G. McKEEN

(Seal.)

Notary Public

No. 166.

I James Gillis do solemnly declare: that I am 67 years of age that I am living about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from Cape Jack Light House, that for 37 years I have been mackerel fishing, two seasons I have been codfishing—I don't think that that Provincial fishing vessels catch a smaller quantity of mackerel on account of fishing alongside of an American Mackerel fishing fleet—during some seasons the American fishing vessels can do better in-shore at other seasons they can do better off shore that outside the three mile limit from shore—taken one season with another I think the Americans catch the greater portion of their mackerel outside of the 3 mile limit from shore—I know that during the last 5 or 6 years the mackerel fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence has very much fallen off but can not give an estimate of how much that is in what proportion compared with former years it has fallen off—According to my opinion and experience I think that about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the crew of the American fishing fleet that comes to the Gulf of St Lawrence is composed of natives of the British Provinces who are also living in these Provinces—some but a few only of the American fishermen occasionally dry their nets and cure fish on the coasts of these Provinces—I have no doubt that the presence of American fishermen on these coasts and in our harbors is of very great pecuniary profit to the Peoples of the Provinces on account

of the purchase by them of all kinds of supplies and country produce and because they give employment to great many of our fishermen and other people—that No. 1 and No. 2 mackerel and most of the fat herring caught by Colonial fishermen finds its only market in the United States a part of the fat herring however is sent to Canada, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majestys reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Cape Jack July 24th 1877.

his
JAMES + GILLIES
mark

In presence of
JAMES G. McKEEN

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH

I hereby Certify that the above named James Gillies voluntarily made and Subscribed by affixing his mark before me at Cape Jack settlement in Said County of Antigonish the foregoing Solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 24th day of July 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 167.

I, William Embree do solemnly declare: that I live at a place called Bear Island, on the Strait of Canso about 2 miles below Port Hawkesbury in the County of Richmond, Nova Scotia—that I am by occupation a fisherman—that I am 55 years old and have been out fishing evy season since I was 18 years old—that I have never been employed in an American fishing vessel—that I have been fishing in the Gulf of St Lawrence around Sydney the Magdalen Islands and other places in the Gulf—that I have fished alongside of American vessels many a time A never thought that I caught a smaller number of fish on account of fishing alongside of the American fleet—American Mackerel fishing vessels begin to arrive in the month of June in each year but in small numbers only—they do not come as a rule before the first week in July—this year they are but just now beginning to arrive and I don't think that the bulk will arrive before August—the mackerel begin to fatten up from about the middle of July—as far as I know the Americans do not dry their nets or but very rarely and do not cure their fish on the coasts of the British North American Provinces—the Americans catch their codfish all on the banks & other places on the high seas—as near as I can come to it I think that about two thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the entire catch of mackerels by the American fleet in the Gulf of St Lawrence is caught outside of the 3 mile line from shore and about $\frac{1}{3}$ in-shore—I think that between $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the crew of the American fishing fleet is composed of natives and residents of the British American Provinces—the average number of the crew of an American Mackerel fishing vessel is about 13 to 14 the crew of an American herring fishing vessel averages about 8 men—the mackerel fishing in the Gulf of St Lawrence has much fallen off—formerly that is ten or fifteen years ago there were as many as 700 to 800 Am. vessels counting each return of the vessels to the Bay as a new vessel—fishing for mackerel in the Gulf of St Lawrence while during the last 6 years taking an average their number during the season has not I think been more than 200—I am convinced that the presence of American fishermen in the ports and on the coasts of the Dominion

is of great pecuniary advantage to the people thereof and in no respect an injury to the interests of the people of the Provinces—I do not think that the American fishing vessels have driven away the mackerel from our fishing grounds, because not only mackerel but herring have got to be very scarce in the Strait of Canso and all around the coasts of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and yet the Americans have never fished here for herring; and I do solemnly declare that I believe conscientiously that the foregoing statement or declaration is true and that I make this declaration by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated July 23d 1877 Bear Island, N. S.

WILLIAM EMBREE

In presence of

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF RICHMOND

I hereby Certify that the above named William Embree voluntarily made and subscribed before me at Bear Island settlement in said County of Richmond the foregoing Solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 23rd day of July 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 168.

I Charles Steward do solemnly declare—that I live at Bear Island Settlement about 5 miles below Hawkesbury on the Strait of Canso—that I am 46 years old—that I have been fishing ever since I was 12 years old and have followed nothing but that—about 7 or 8 years I have been mackerel fishing during the summer—in the spring I have always been net-fishing in boats—I was 3 seasons in American Mackerel fishing vessels—they generally come from home after the 4th of July and stay up to about the middle or last of September—the mackerel fishing has not been very productive during the last 5 or 6 years, the last 2 or 3 years the catch of mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence has been very poor—while I was in the American fishing vessels they caught at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of their entire catch outside a line 3 miles from shore in fact most mackerel were caught by them from 6 to 7 miles from shore—the greater the fishing fleet is the more the mackerel are stirred up and brought to the surface of the water and I don't think that Colonial vessel catch any the less mackerel on account of fishing alongside of an American fleet—I think the seine fishing is injurious to fishing as it breaks up the schools of mackerel—there have been but few American seine fishers in the Gulf and they never succeeded very well in the Gulf—seine fishing ought to be prohibited—I think about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the crew of American fishing vessels is composed of natives of the British Provinces who continue to reside in the Provinces—The American fishermen do not, as far as I know dry their nets or cure fish on the Coasts of the British North American Provinces—during the last 6 years I should think the American mackerel fleet in the Gulf has not averaged over fifty sails a season—during the period of from 10 to 15 years ago the American mackerel fleet in the Gulf averaged I should think about 300 sails—the codfishing is prosecuted by the Americans exclusively outside the 3 mile limit from shore, mostly on the banks of Newfoundland—the American herring fleet during the last 10 years has averaged about 20 sails off the Coasts

of the British Provinces, they prosecute the fishery at the Magdalen Islands from about the first of May and stay from two to three weeks when they return home—they make but one trip during the year—their average catch per vessel is about 1000 barrels I think—herring, cod and mackerel are as far as I know the only fish caught by American vessels off the Coasts of the British North American Colonies—and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths.

Dated Bear Island Settlement July 23, 1877.

CHARLES STUART

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF RICHMOND

I hereby Certify that the above named Charles Stuart voluntarily made and subscribed before me at Bear Island Settlement in said County of Richmond the foregoing Solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 23rd day of July 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 169.

I Edward Levanger do solemnly declare that I am living at Harbor Bouché that I am 31 years old—that for about eleven years I have been a fisherman by occupation I have been Captain of a fishing vessel of my own the "Winfield Scott" but I sold her this year—during good fishing times I remember to have counted as many as 500 American fishing vessels between East Point on Prince Edward Island & the Magdalen Islands; the mackerel fishing has much fallen off during the last 6 years I don't think that during that time half as many mackerel have been caught that during 6 years preceding the period dating back from 8 years ago—I think that Provincial fishing vessels catch quite as many fish when fishing alongside of American vessels as they would if the Provincial vessel were by themselves provided they have as good bait as the Americans have which they sometimes however have not—during some years the Americans catch more fish inside a line 3 miles from shore at other years they catch by far the greater part outside that line, striking an average I think that taken one year with another the Americans have caught an equal portion of their entire catch of mackerel inside a line 3 miles from shore and outside of that line—I think that about one half of the crew of the American fishing fleet fishing in the waters off the coasts of the Atlantic British Provinces are natives of the British Colonies who still are residents of the Provinces—the Americans dry their nets or seines but very seldom on the coasts of the British Provinces and they don't cure their fish on the shores of the Colonies—the American herring fleet that comes to the shores of the British Provinces averages about 60 to 70 sails the season during the spring they fish at the Magdalen Islands for about two to three weeks & then go home—in the fall they go about the last of September to the coasts of Labrador and Newfoundland—the average size of an American herring fishing vessel is about eighty tons and during the spring trip such a vessel would on an average catch a thousand barrels of herring—such a vessel going in the fall to the coasts of Labrador and Newfoundland

would average during the winter trip a catch of about eight hundred barrels—all the codfish Caught by the Americans is caught outside the 3 mile limits—the Americans to a small extent catch halibut off the coasts of the Colonies—about 3 to 5 American halibut fishing vessels fish on the coasts of Anticosti they make generally two trips during the season and each vessel averages per trip about fifty thousand pounds—besides going to Anticosti the Americans don't fish for mackerel on any other places off the coasts the British Provinces except about 15 American vessels who go halibut fishing on the grand banks of Newfoundland—the Americans don't fish for any other class of fish off the coasts of the British Colonies except those I have mentioned and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of the reign of her Majesty entitled an act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Harbor Bouche July 25th 1877.

EDWARD LEVANGER

In presence of

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF ANTIGONISH July 25, 1877

I hereby Certify that the above named Edward Levanger this 25th day of July 1877 duly made and Subscribed before me the foregoing solemn declaration freely and voluntarily at Harbour Bouché in said county of Antigonish

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal the day and year above mentioned

JAMES G. McKEEN

(Seal.)

Notary Public

No. 170.

I George Langley do solemnly declare that I am fifty four (54) years old—that I live at Bear Island Strait of Canso and am a british subject—that I went first fishing when I was between 12 and 13 years old and have been at it ever since, during the summer season I go in fishing vessels but during the spring season and late in the fall I go boat-fishing in-shore—during three seasons I have been employed on American Mackerel fishing vessels during the other seasons I have been employed in Provincial Mackerel fishing vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence—during the last 6 or 7 years the mackerel fishing has been getting poorer every year and has been nothing like what it was say 10 to 15 years ago—I don't believe that the average annual catch during the last 6 years has been over $\frac{1}{3}$ part of the entire annual catch of the period of from 10 to 15 years ago—my own experience in the American vessels on which I have been engaged is that we caught during every one of the three seasons all our mackerel many more than 3 miles from any shore—during clear days the North Cape of Prince Edward Island could just be seen—I can form no estimate of the proportion of mackerel caught by the entire American fleet inshore—from my experience I don't think that Provincial fishermen ever catch a smaller number of mackerel on account of having an American fleet fishing alongside of them—I have never seen an American fishing vessel fish for bait in-shore on the Coasts of the Dominion of Canada—the earliest I have been in the Gulf of St Lawrence on an American fishing schooner was

the 20th of June—the big fleet of the American fishing fleet don't come until after the fourth of July—during the period of from 10 to 15 years ago there were probably from 400 to 500 American sails in the Gulf fishing for mackerel—during the last 5 years they did not average more than 70 or 80 sails annually—I think that fully $\frac{1}{3}$ of the crew of the American fishing fleet in the Gulf of St Lawrence is composed of subjects of the North American British Provinces who continue to be residents of the Provinces. I think that the presence of American fishermen on these coasts and in our harbours is of great pecuniary advantage to the people of the Provinces while I am not aware that it injuriously affects any of their interests and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Bear Island July 23d 1877.

GEORGE LANGLEY

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF RICHMOND

I hereby Certify that the above named George Langley voluntarily made and subscribed before me at Bear Island Settlement in said County of Richmond the foregoing Solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 23rd day of July 1877.

JAMES G. McKEEN

(Seal.)

Notary Public.

No. 171.

I Hugh McPherson of Bear Island, Strait of Canso, Richmond County, Nova Scotia do solemnly declare that I am a native of and residing in the Province of Nova—that by occupation I am a fisherman—that I have been a fisherman during the last nine (9) years having before that time been a seaman—during two seasons I have been employed as one of the crews of American fishing vessels fishing for mackerel—I think that Colonial fishing vessels catch quite as many mackerel when fishing alongside of an American mackerel fishing fleet as they would catch in case there were no American fishing vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence—the Americans catch their codfish outside the three mile limit from shore—I don't think that on an average the Americans catch more than $\frac{1}{4}$ th of their entire catch of mackerel within the 3 miles line from shore, $\frac{3}{4}$ th is caught outside that line—the catch of mackerel has much fallen off during the last 5 or 6 years, during the 2 last seasons there were but very few mackerel caught in the Gulf—last season there were probably not over thirty American mackerel fishing vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence and the year before probably not over fifty or sixty vessels—last year & the year before there were not over $\frac{1}{3}$ d of the number of Colonial fishing vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence that visited the Gulf 6 or 7 years ago—eight years ago according to a rough calculation I should say there were about 300 to 400 American mackerel fishing vessels in the Gulf—I don't think that the Americans anywhere cure fish on the Colonial coasts and I have not seen them dry their nets on our shores—a small number of American mackerel fishing vessels arrive at the Gulf of St Lawrence in June but the bulk of them don't come until July and August the presence of American fishermen is a great pecuniary advantage to the People of the Provinces especially when the

catch of fish is good—they are in the habit of buying at a great number of Ports supplies of every description of the merchant and the farmer and I don't know in what respect their presence would be disadvantageous to the people of the Provinces and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled "An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated at Bear Island July 23d 1877.

HUGH McPHERSON

In presence of

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF RICHMOND

I hereby certify that the above named Hugh McPherson voluntarily made and subscribed before me at Bear Island settlement in said County of Richmond the foregoing Solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 23rd day of July 1877

JAMES G. McKEEN

(Seal.)

Notary Public.

No. 172.

I Chandler Embree do solemnly declare that I have been born and always living at Bear Island Settlement about 2 miles below Hawkesbury on the Strait of Canso—that I am 30 years of age—that ever since I was 14 years old I have been employed in fishing in boats and vessels and that during 4 summers I was employed on American fishing vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence—the mass of American Mackerel fishers arrive in the Gulf about the 4th of July—a few American vessels may be there before that time—I do not believe that the catch of Colonial fishermen is lessened on account of an American mackerel fleet fishing alongside of them—the average crew of an American fishing vessel consists of about 13 to 14 men—I think that fully one half of the crew of the American fishing fleet is composed of natives of the several British North American Provinces who continue to reside in these Provinces—I think that about $\frac{3}{4}$ th of the entire catch of mackerel by the American fleet is usually caught outside a line 3 miles from shore and about $\frac{1}{4}$ th in-shore—the Americans do not one in a hundred make use of the privilege to dry nets and none to cure fish on the Colonial coasts as far as I know—the outfitting of an American fishing vessel is much more expensive than that of Colonial vessels of the same tonnage but I cannot say how much higher it comes—The Americans do not fish for Codfish inside the 3 mile limit from shore—I know although I have not seen them that a few American vessels are engaged in halibut fishing off the coast of Anticosti but I can not say how many—codfish, mackerel, herring and halibut are all the fish that Americans catch off the coasts of British North America—the average of herring caught annually by an averaged sized American herring fishing vessel is about 1 should think 1200 barrels—(1200 barrels)—I don't think that there have been over 7 seine fishing mackerel vessels on an average during the last 5 years in the Gulf of St Lawrence—they have to go into deep water to get their seines to work—seine fishing is injurious to fishing as it breaks up the schools of mackerel—the American seiners do not seem to have been successful in the Gulf of St Lawrence the presence of American fishermen on the coasts and in the ports of the several Atlantic British Provinces has pecuniarily greatly benefited the people of the Colonies and as far

as I know not been an injury to them in any respect, and I do solemnly declare that I have made the foregoing declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths.

Bear Island Settlement July 23d 1877.

CHANDLER EMBREE

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF RICHMOND

I hereby Certify that the above named Chandler Embree voluntarily made and subscribed before me at Bear Island Settlement in said County of Richmond the foregoing solemn declaration

Given under my hand & Notarial Seal this 23rd day of July 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 173.

I, Solomon Cahoon do solemnly declare that I have been engaged as a merchant at Cape Canso C. B. for over 10 years—that I have been in the habit of trading with American codfishing vessels—that last year, which in that respect was an average year, I traded with about 80 American fishing vessels to the aggregate amount of, as near as I can come to it, about \$10,000—this amount represents the sum expended by them at this port and neighboring ports within about 3 hours sail for supplies of all kinds including about \$5000.00 advanced to them for purchasing bait at said ports—the Am. vessels, as a rule, buy all the bait they obtain at these ports and adjacent waters, exceptionally however they themselves catch some squid for bait, this however is insignificant and hardly worth being taken into account—the vessels i. e. American vessels, who call at this port for supplies, are in the habit of calling also at other ports in the Dominion to receive supplies of different descriptions during the same fishing cruise I can not estimate the sums expended by them in such other ports—the Americans do not carry on boatfishing in these waters and make no use of curing fish and but very little, if any, of drying nets or seines on the coasts of these Provinces—for No 1 Salmon and No 1 and No 2 Mackerel, caught by Colonial vessels, the United States are the only market and most of the fat herring, although I do not know the exact proportion, goes to the United States, a portion of the fat herring, I know, finds a market in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario—codfishing is carried on by the Am. vessels on the high seas, they do not catch cod within 3 miles from shore—the presence of American fishermen in the waters of these Provinces is as far as I know in no respect injurious to the interests of the Provinces but of great pecuniary advantage to them, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths

Cape Canso June 16th 1877.

SOLOMON. COHOON

Witness:

OSCAR MALMROS }

CONSULATE OF THE U. S. OF AMERICA AT
PICTOU, N. S., CAPE CANSO AGENCY

June 16th 1877.

This is to certify that before me, the undersigned, Oscar Malmros, U. S. Consul for Pictou N. S. and the dependencies thereof, personally appeared the above named Solomon Cohoon and on said 16th of June at Cape Canso voluntarily made and subscribed the foregoing Solemn Declaration.

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

No. 174.

I Thomas C. Cook of Cape Canso in the Province of Nova Scotia do solemnly declare that I now am and for the last Twenty years, have been a Merchant transacting business at this port, and am well acquainted with the business transacted by American Codfishing vessels frequenting this port, and to my knowledge American fishing vessels do not fish Codfish at all within three miles from the shores, and very rare cases if any mackarel by seines within that distance, and from the changes in the methods of fishing of late years, the inshore fisheries are less important than formerly—

I am not aware that American fishermen make any use of the Shores of the British Provinces for the purpose of drying nets or curing fish—

Fresh bait, fishing supplies, and outfits of all kinds are purchased at all convenient harbours on the Coasts of Nova Scotia to a large extent, at this port and harbors within two three or hours sail—the amount expended for the above purpose reaches the aggregate Amount of Twenty to Twenty Five thousand Dollars Annually—

The United States markets are now the only markets for the Number One Salmon, Number One and Two Mackerel, and for nearly all the fat Herrings produced by the fisheries of the British Provinces, a few only of the Herring of that Class being sent to Canada—

It is a fact felt and acknowledged by all engaged in the business that the in-shore fisheries of the British Provinces are less valuable than formerly, the deep sea Codfishery being more advantageously followed—

American fishermen purchase annually at this port and adjacent harbours—within two or three hours sail—fresh fish for bait—to the Amount of Twelve to fifteen thousand Dollars, and Catch no bait whatever except on rare occasions a few Squid which are not worth taking into account.

I would judge that about half or more of the crews of American fishing vessels are residents of the British Provinces.

While the presence of American fishermen in the waters of the British provinces is in no respects injurious to the fishermen of said Provinces it is of great pecuniary profit and advantage to the people of the Dominion of Canada—

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true—and by virtue of the Act passed in the Thirty-Seventh Year of Her Majestys Reign Entitled An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra judicial oaths,

Cape Canso June 16th 1877

THOS. C. COOK

COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH }
CAPE CANSO }

I the undersigned Justice of the Peace for the County of Guysborough do hereby certify that the foregoing Statement and declaration was made and Subscribed, before me by the before mentioned Thomas C. Cook

SOLOMON COHOON J. P.

No. 175.

I, Alfred W. Hart do solemnly declare that I have been a merchant in Cape Canso during the last 16 years that I have been in the habit of supplying American Codfishing vessels at this port—last year I furnished supplies to about 100 Am. fish'g vessels the supplies together with moneys furnished them to buy bait aggregating \$10,000 or over—the year before was considerably better than last year but my trade with Am. fishing vessels during the last 10 years would average as near as I can come about \$10,000 a year—the same vessels that were supplied by me no doubt got supplies, especially bait, at other points in the Canadian Provinces besides that of Canso—Mackerel & herring fishing vessels are not in the habit of calling here—I am not aware of any injury done by Am. fishing vessels in the waters of the Provinces but am of opinion that their presence in the waters of the Colonies have been of great pecuniary benefit to the people thereof—The only market for No 1 and No 2 mackerel and No 1 Salmon is the United States—the American fishermen do not engage in boatfishing, they catch cod over 3 miles from shore—the American buy nearly all the bait they obtain here a little perhaps not quite $\frac{1}{20}$ th part they may catch themselves the presence of Am. fishing fleets alongside of Provincial fishermen does not lessen the catch of the latter—I have never heard of American fishermen having made use of any of the shores of Nova Scotia or the Gulf of St Lawrence for curing fish or drying nets or seines—I judge that fully one half of the crew of Am. fishing vessels visiting the British Colonial Atlantic waters are British subjects residing in the Dominion of Canada and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and by virtue of the Act passed during the 37th year of her Majestys reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary & extrajudicial oath

Cape Canso C. B. June 16. 1877.

ALFRED W HART

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS }

U. S. Consul }

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
GUYSBORO' COUNTY, TOWN OF CAPE CANSO

Be it remembered that on this 16th day of June in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Seventy Seven, personally appeared before me Thomas C Cook of Cape Canso in the Province of Nova Scotia Notary Public, Alfred W. Hart, who made and subscribed the foregoing statement and declaration,

In testimony whereof I the said Notary have hereunto subscribed my name, and affixed my Notarial Seal at Cape Canso in the Province aforesaid on the day and year aforementioned—

(Seal.)

THOS. C. COOK

Not. Pub.

No. 176.

My name is James G. McKeen, I am a British subject, have resided at Port Hastings Strait of Canso for the last thirty five years, the greater part of that time I have been engaged Merchandising. I have had considerable dealings with fishermen a large part of my trade was with American Mackerel and Codfishermen, visiting the Gulf of St. Lawrence,

About ten Years ago when Mackerel were plentiful in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the American Mackerel fishermen purchased fishing supplies largely in the Strait of Canso, such as Barrels, Salt, Bait, Wood, Flour, Beef, Pork, Butter, Lard, Potatoes, Small Stores Clothing, &c. &c.

The trade from the American fishing Vessels in the Strait of Canso has been of very great pecuniary advantage to the people of this part of Nova Scotia, I have know American Mackerel fishing Vessels frequently purchase supplies here amounting to from one thousand to fifteen hundred Dollars pr Season Each, I believe that American fishermen have been in the habit of buying supplies in the several Harbours along the Coasts of the British Provinces and that they bought fishing supplies largely in Prince Edwards Island, but I cannot give any approximate idea of the Amount

The Codfishermen for Several Years past purchase also the ordinary supplies above named, to a large extent, and besides they purchase Ice and large quantities of fresh Herrings and Mackerel for bait all along the Coasts of the Provinces, this supplying of Ice and fresh fish for bait to American Codfishing vessels is becoming quite an extensive business, New Icehouses are being erected every Year around the Coasts of the Provinces. and larger stocks of ice are stored, to be sold principally to the United States fishermen, these fishermen after taking in a supply of ice go for fresh Herring or Mackerel, purchasing from forty to sixty barrels, wherever they are to be had along the Coast, and this "baiting up" as it is called is repeated two or three times each season, and oftener when Codfish are scarce, these Herring and Mackerel are sold to the fishermen at from one Dollar and fifty Cents to three Dollars and sometimes higher The American fishing Vessels both the Codfishing and mackerel fleet frequently make considerable expenditures in Ports of the Provinces for repairs to their Vessels and in the purchase of Anchors, Cables, Sails, Spars. &c. &c.

About ten to twelve Years ago from two hundred and fifty to three hundred American fishing vessels passed through the Strait of Canso yearly bound into the Gulf of St. Lawrence for the purpose of catching Mackerel, but during the last four or five Years this number has decreased very much owing as I have understood from the scarcity of Mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the large catch of Mackerel on the United States coast, last Season there were probably not over Seventy American Mackerel fishing Vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the average Catch of these vessels was reported not to have exceeded one hundred barrels of Mackerel each

The bait chiefly used by American Mackerel fishing Vessels is Menhaden or Porgies. these fish are taken I believe entirely on the coast of the United States, and mostly in Seines within three Miles of the land, so I have been informed. British Mackerel fishermen use the same kind of bait principally and depend on the United States for the supply, clams are also used as bait for Catching Mackerel by both American and Colonial Mackerel fishing vessels, and they are obtained chiefly in the United States,

Nearly all the Numbers one, and two, and a large part of the Number three Mackerel, number one Salmon, and large quantities of fat and poor Herrings, caught by Provincial fishermen around our Coasts, are shipped to the United States for a Market, that being the best and almost the only Market for our fat and best fish

I am not aware that the American fishermen use to any appreciable extent the shores of the Provinces for curing their fish or drying Nets

The American fishing Vessels employ large numbers of men belonging to the Provinces on board their vessels every year, probably over two thousand men yearly, these men go in Mackerel fishing Vessels generally on Shares and in Codfishing Vessels they are chiefly hired receiving fairly remunerative Wages, the employment of so many men on board American fishing Vessels is considered a great advantage to our people in a pecuniary point of view

And I James G. McKeen aforesaid do solemnly declare that I conscientiously believe that the facts contained in the foregoing declaration are true and I make this declaration, by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th Year of Her Majestys Reign entitled an act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial Oaths

JAMES G. McKEEN

I hereby certify that the foregoing statement was signed in my presence by James G. McKeen above named at Port Hastings Nova Scotia the 13th day of June A D 1877

A B SKINNER

Justice of the Peace for the County of Inverness—

No. 177.

I George Bunker do solemnly declare that I am 31 years old—that I am living at Margaret Bay 24 miles from Halifax—I have been employed as a fisherman ever since I was a boy—for 10 seasons I have been master of a fishing vessel fishing in the waters off the American coasts & those of Nova Scotia, the Gulf of St Lawrence & Magdalen Island for cod and mackerel & herring—cod fish is not at all caught by the Am. fishermen within 3 miles from shore—about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the mackerel caught by the Americans is caught within 3 miles from shore—the catch of mackerel in Provincials waters has much fallen off during the last 5 or 6 years, of late years they are doing hardly anything in mackerel fishing in Provincial waters—the crew of American fishing vessels in Provincial waters consist of from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of British subjects, residing in the Provinces—the monthly wages of the crew of these fishing vessel would average about \$30 $\frac{00}{100}$ per man. The Americans buy all the bait they obtain in the Provinces, they do not fish for bait here themselves—an American fishing schooner of say from 70 tons to 85 tons would leave in the provinces from \$200 to \$300 $\frac{00}{100}$ for bait, ice, fuel & provisions that is if such schooner called only once during the season at a port of the Provinces & did not land cargo for re-shipment—I do not think that the Canadian fisheries have sustained any injury on account of the fishing of the Americans nor that that the catch of Provincial fishermen has been less on account of fishing along side of an American fishing fleet—It costs fully one third more to fit,—out man & furnish an American fishing vessel than a Provincial—The Americans make no use of the shores of the Provinces for curing fish and but very seldom for the purpose of drying nets—codfish is not caught by Americans within 3 miles from shore—the Americans fish for mackerel in the Provincial waters

but very little before the month of July because up to that time the mackerel are poor and lean—I believe that if the Provincials had as much enterprise and invested as much capital in fishing & fishing vessels as the Americans that the privilege of fishing in Am. waters north of the 39th degree of latitude would be as valuable to them as the right to fish in Provincial waters is to the Americans There can be no doubt that the presence of American fishermen in the waters of the Provinces is of very great benefit to the People thereof as they expend a great deal of money for clothing, provisions & supplies of all kinds, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed in the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled "An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial Oaths

Cape Canso June 16th 1877.

CAPT GEORGE BUNKER

In presence of

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

I Thomas C Cook of Cape Canso in the Province of Nova Scotia Notary Public do hereby certify unto all whom it may concern that the above and foregoing declaration and Statement was made and subscribed in my presence by the above named George Bunker on the day of the date thereof

In testimony whereof I the said Notary have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my Notarial Seal at Cape Canso aforesaid this Sixteenth day of June in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Seventy Seven—

(Seal.)

THOS. C. COOK

Not. Pub.

No. 178.

Francis Marneau of Arichat being sworn says: I have been engaged in Arichat in General Merchandising for about 22 years and am well acquainted with the general trade of this Port and with everything connected with the fisheries I have also been in the habit of supplying American fishing vessels calling at this Port—the average number of American fishing vessels calling at this Port during the last five years was about two hundred the year—they call for bait and ice and get the former at this place or on the coast of this Island i. e. Isle Madame—take one with another and each vessel during that time has bought at each call about sixty dollars worth of bait—the bait consists in fresh herring and mackerel, the herring costs them in the spring about 50 cents a hundred and from the 1st of July the herring costs about \$1⁰⁰/₁₀₀ a hundred—for mackerel they pay about 5 or 6 dollars a barrel—the Am fishing vessels never catch there bait here in the bay, they always buy it—for ice each vessel during said period has expended at this Port about from fifteen to twenty-five dollars at \$2⁵⁰/₁₀₀ a ton for the ice—the American fishing vessels calling here in the spring and summer don't buy anything else here than ice and bait—about 10 Am. herring fishing vessels call here late in the fall on their way to the Newfoundland shore and at that time they do not buy any bait or ice but buy considerable quantities of beef pork mutton potatoes and country wollen cloth manufactured by the country people butter and other articles, each vessel expends here on an average for those articles in the fall before going to the fisheries for the winter trip fully five hundred dollars or over—the entire number of young fishermen who annually are engaged by the

American fishing vessels calling at this Port is part of the crew of the American vessels during the season is fully 300 from Isle Madame alone—these young men return to their homes after the fishing season—the presence of the American fishing fleet on our coasts is of great pecuniary advantage to our people and does not injuriously affect any of the interests of our people. The vessels i. e. Am vessels I have supplied for their fishing tour amount to about 5 or 6 vessels per season—I have never seen or heard of American fishermen drying their nets on the coasts of these Provinces and of but one American fishing vessel have dried fish on our coasts.

FRS MARMEAU

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 28th day of July 1877

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
ARICHAT, COUNTY OF RICHMOND

At Arichat in said Richmond County on this 28th day of July 1877 the above named Francis Marneau made and subscribed in my presence the foregoing affidavit

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Arichat aforesaid

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 179.

I, James L. Girrois do solemnly declare that: I am living at Arichat, Isle Madame—the extent of the Island is 7 miles by 14 miles—I am master of the schooner Maggie of this Port (Arichat)—I am well acquainted with the trade of the Port having always lived here—from 250 to 300 American fishing vessels, mostly codfishing have called here on an average each season during the last five years—they take in here ice and bait—each vessel buys bait here to the amount of about 50 barrels of mackerel and herring for the herring they pay about \$1⁰⁰/₁₀₀ a hundred and for the mackerel about \$5⁰⁰/₁₀₀ a barrel the average cost of bait per barrel herring & mackerel will cost them about \$2⁵⁰/₁₀₀ a barrel—they also take in each on an average about 5 or 6 tons of ice costing from \$2.50 to \$3⁰⁰/₁₀₀ per ton—fully three hundred of the fishermen ship in American fishing vessels from Isle Madame, going mostly in the spring to Gloucester for that purpose—I am of the opinion that the coming of American fishermen to our coasts to fish is a good thing for the Provinces as they spend considerable money in our ports and give employment to a great many of our fishermen and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of her Majestys reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Arichat Isle Madame July 29th 1877.

JAMES L. GIRROIS

Master Schr Maggie

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
WEST ARICHAT COUNTY OF RICHMOND

At West Arichat in said Richmond County on this 29th day of July

1877 the above named James L Girrois made and Subscribed the foregoing solemn declaration before me

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Arichat aforesaid this 29th day of July 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 180.

I Isidore Le Blanc do swear that I am a general merchant doing business at Arichat Isle Madame, almost the only or at least by far the principal business of this place is the fishing interest—I don't think that capital invested in fishing vessels owned in this Island (Isle Madame) has cleared during the last five years on an average over five per cent profit I think that during the period just named about three hundred American fishing vessels have called per annum at this Port and bought on this Island on an average each about \$200 worth of fresh bait, consisting in herring and mackerel and I think about \$15 to \$20⁰⁰/₁₀₀ worth of ice per vessel although as to this latter article I am not sure—I know that about 100 of our young fishermen go each year in April & May to Gloucester to secure good berths on fishing, mostly codfishing, vessels—they return to the Island after the end of the fishing season—they fish on shares and do well at it I think that the coming of American fishing vessels to our coasts advances the prosperity of our people and does not interfere with any of its interests. So help me God.

Dated Arichat July 29th 1877.

ISIDORE LE BLANC

Subscribed & sworn to before me }
July 29th 1877 }

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

ARICHAT, COUNTY OF RICHMOND

At Arichat in said Richmond County on this 29th day of July 1877 the above named Isadore Le Blance made and subscribed in my presence the foregoing affidavit

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Arichat aforesaid the 29th day of July 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 181.

I, Simon P. Le Blanc do solemnly declare that I am shipping master at West Arichat Isle Madam—I have lived here since I was born I know that about one hundred American fishing vessels call annually at the Ports of Arichat and West Arichat, besides a great number of American fishing vessels buy bait on the Island without entering any harbor—on an average each Am. fishing vessel during the last five or six years has bought bait on the Island to the amount of between twenty five and thirty barrels, sometime the same vessel will call three or four times during the same season and each time take in a similar quantity of bait, the price of the bait averages about between three and four dollars per barrel for the herring and about (\$7⁰⁰/₁₀₀) for the mackerel per barrel—they take mostly herring it being most common in the spring but they prefer mackerel—each vessel takes about from five to eight tons of ice, those who go halibut fishing take from 30 to 40 tons of ice—the price of ice here is from two to three dollars per ton—I think

that fully one hundred fishermen go every spring to Gloucester U. S. A. to go codfishing mostly in American fishing vessel, besides a considerable number are shipped during the season from this Island in Am. fishing vessels—I am of the opinion that the presence of American fishing vessels on the coasts of the Province is of great pecuniary advantage to our people because they spend much money on our coasts and give employment to many of our fishermen and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of her Majestys reign entitled An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths.

S. P. LEBLANC

Dated West Arichat July 29th 1877.

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

WEST ARICHAT, COUNTY OF RICHMOND

At West Arichat in Said County of Richmond on this 29th day of July 1877 the above named S. P. Leblanc made and Subscribed the foregoing solemn declaration before me

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Arichat aforesaid this 29th July 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 182.

I Simon Theriot do solemnly declare that I reside at West Arichat, Isle Madame, N. S., that I am engaged as a general trader and dealer in fish that I have been the owner of a fishing vessel engaged in Codfishing on the grand banks of Newfoundland the vessel was out fishing in 1875 and 1876 and made no returns for the capital and labor invested in her—many others were ready to engage in fishing and investing capital in fishing vessels but when I did not succeed they concluded that it was no use to try and do any business in that line—I know of no person who invested capital in fishing vessels in this place and who did well in it—not one—about 150 American fishing vessels have as far as I am able to make a rough estimate visited Isle Madame each season on an average during the last three years and bought bait each to the average amount one hundred dollars; they the American vessels never catch any bait on these coasts—I have never known them to dry their nets or cure their fish on our coasts—each Am. fishing vessels on an average takes in at at Arichat about 6 to 10 tons of ice—last year they, the ice merchants sold ice at \$4⁰⁰/₁₀₀ a ton, now they sell it at \$2⁵⁰/₁₀₀ a ton And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an act passed during the 37th year of her Majestys reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths.

West Arichat July 29th 1877.

SIMON TERRIO

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

WEST ARICHAT, COUNTY OF RICHMOND

At West Arichat in said County of Richmond on this 29th day of July

1877 the above named Simon Terrio made and Subscribed the foregoing solemn declaration before me

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Arichat aforesaid this 29th day of July 1877

JAMES G. McKEEN
Notary Public

(Seal.)

No. 183.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA }
COUNTY OF RICHMOND }

I, William LeVesconte of D'Escouse in Isle Madam Cape Breton Merchant do declare as follows—

That for the past twenty five years I have been engaged in the fishing business in this Island—supplying vessels and fishermen for the deep sea and other fisheries—and from my knowledge and experience therein, I do estimate that the number of fishermen who have left this Island to serve in American fishing vessels—returning to their homes at the close of the season for the past five years—to average two hundred—

That there has been a large amount of bait procured on this Coast by American fishing vessels but I cannot form any correct estimate as to quantity

That the British fishing vessels have, in this locality, yielded a profit of at least twenty five per cent during the period above mentioned—

That certain advantages have been derived by the resident fishermen from the calling of American vessels for bait and other necessities to the extent of the amount expended herefor—

That I do not consider the interests of British fishermen on this coast have been interfered with by those in American vessels to any extent—And lastly I do not know of any American vessel curing her fish on this coast and only in one instance of the fact of drying her nets

I make the above declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true—

WILL^M LEVESCONTE.

Signed and declared to before me this 30th day of July AD. 1877. at Descouse

W. R ; CUTLER
Notary Public

No. 184.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA }
COUNTY OF RICHMOND }

I Charles Doyle of Rocky Bay in Isle Madam do declare as follows—that I am a fisherman and have been engaged in that business regularly for the past thirty years—That a large quantity of fish are taken in this locality by nets and it is a great resort for American Bank vessels to procure bait during the fishing season

That in my opinion at least one hundred vessels have on an average, for the past five years, been 'baited' in this Bay and adjacent harbors of the Island—and have annually purchased at least Twenty five hundred barrels of herring and mackerel for that purpose—paying therefor at the rate of three dollars per barrel for herring and six dollars per barrel for Mackerel—That most of those vessels are provided with ice when they come here from ports outside of this Island—

That large advantages are gained by the fishermen from the fact of their vessels calling here for bait and supplies all of which are paid for in cash

That no interference is given to the British fishermen in the prosecution of their calling by the American vessels as they only remain sufficiently long to procure their necessaries and then leave immediately for the Banks

That no American fishermen have set nets or dried them—or cured fish on this part of the coast within my knowledge—I make the above declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true

CHARLES DOYLE

Signed and declared to before me this 30 day of July 1877. at Rocky Bay

W. R. CUTLER

Notary Public

Nova Scotia

No. 185.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA }
COUNTY OF RICHMOND }

—I David Gruchy of Descouse in Isle Madam Cape Breton Merchant do hereby declare that I have been thirty three years engaged in the fishing business of this Island— —that from my knowledge and experience therein I estimate the number of fishermen who have left this Island to join American vessels—and who return at the close of season—Averaging the last five years One hundred and fifty—the past two years there has been far less than formerly—

That a large quantity of bait has been procured by American vessels around the coast of this Island.

The British fishing vessels in this locality have yielded a profit of over twenty per cent during the period above mentioned

That the resident fishermen have derived advantages from the fact of American vessels calling here for bait and supplies—to the extent of the sums paid therefor

That the interests of British fishermen on this coast have not been interfered with in my opinion to any extent

And lastly I know of no American vessels curing fish or drying nets on this coast since I have been in the business here—

I make the above declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true—

D. GRUCHY.

Signed and declared to before me at Descouse this 30th July. 1877.

W. R. CUTLER

Notary Public

Nova Scotia

No. 186.

John Grant being duly sworn says:

I am living at Hawkesbury on the Strait of Canso I am sixty four years old—I am by occupation a fisherman and pilot—for 40 years I have been a fisherman in over 20 American fishing vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence—during the last six years the mackerel fishing has much fallen off—about 10 to 15 years ago the mackerel were very plentiful and I remember to have seen as many as 700 American sails in the Gulf during some seasons. During those years there were only about 50 Provincial vessels in the Gulf—during those years Provincial vessels went mostly codfishing on the coasts of Labrador they had not the vessels fit for mackerel fishing and did not understand the business of mackerel fishing very well that

is about 15 years or 20 years ago—last year was the slackest fishing season I have seen ; I think there were nearly one hundred american fishing vessels in the Gulf and about 10 Provincial vessels fishing for mackerel—I don't think that a single vessel made two trips during the year and not many of them had a full cargo, many in fact not over 50 barrels. During the four seasons preceding the last there were about 120 American sails on an average during each season in the Gulf fishing for mackerel and about 15 to 20 Provincial vessels but the vessels did not well during any of those years—when I was with the Americans, that is, employed on their fishing vessels, we caught most of the mackerel outside of line 3 miles from shore, we caught them outside of sight of land entirely on Bank Bradley and Bank that is from 20 to 30 years ago. —Ten (10) to 15 years ago we caught the mackerel in the American vessels I was in off the East Point Prince Edward Island and off New London P. E. I. and off Casumbec P. E. I. about 8 to 10 miles off and the same distance off the North Cape P. E. I.; during the last 8 years the Americans caught most of their mackerel on the North Side of Prince Edward Island about 5 to 8 miles off the coast—they have caught but a small proportion of their entire catch inside 3 miles from shore certainly not more than one fourth of their entire catch inside 3 miles from shore and they caught that portion in the fall of the year—the American fishing vessels make most of the business that there is in the Strait of Canso, when there are but few American fishing vessels in our waters trade in the Strait is slack and money is scarce ; during many years the only money we saw was Yankee money they buy a great deal of country produce as beef, mutton potatoes, all kinds of other vegetables, homespun cloth, socks & mittens made by the country people and other things besides buying largely store goods of various kinds and they give employment to a very great many of our fishermen besides to coopers and other mechanics—particularly during the last 10 or 15 years a great proportion of the crew of the American fishing fleet is composed of Colonial people, I mean such as have not removed their place of living to the States. I think it is of great advantage to the people of these Provinces that the American fishermen should visit our coasts and fish there as much as they please they do no injury to our fishing and nearly half of our fishermen would be out of employment if the Americans did not employ them in their vessels.

JOHN GRANT

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 27th day of July 1877.

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

PORT HASTINGS, COUNTY OF INVERNESS

At Port Hastings in said County of Inverness on this 27th day of July 1877 the above named John Grant made and subscribed in my presence the foregoing affidavit

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Port Hastings aforesaid the 27th day of July 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 187.

Patrick Walsh being duly sworn says :

I am about 35 years old am living near McGuire's at Steep Creek Guysboro Co, Nova Scotia have been fishing in vessels, mostly Ameri-

can vessels during the 21 years next preceding last year, I did not go last year because mackerel were too scarce in the Bay—the big American fleet does not leave home until after the 4th of July for the Gulf of St Lawrence to fish for mackerel mackerel don't begin to get fat until the middle of August—the bait used by both Provincial and American vessels is Pogies and clam & these come all from the United States, exceptionally a Provincial vessel may use herring but this is not a good bait—the average number of vessels fishing for mackerel in the Gulf during the rebellion in the States was about 300 or 400 and about 30 to 40 (thirty to forty) Provincial vessels—during most of the years I was out mackerel fishing the Provincial vessels were about one tenth of the number of American vessels fishing for mackerel in the Gulf—fishing alongside of an American mackerel fleet would not lessen the catch of Provincial vessels provided the latter had as good bait and vessels as well fitted out as the Americans—the average number of hands employed on an American mackerel catcher is about 14 or 15 hands—during the last 6 or 7 years the mackerel fishery in the Gulf of St Lawrence has much fallen off—I don't think that the average catch during that period was more than one fifth part per year of the quantity caught say ten years ago and during the ten years next preceding the season of ten years ago—I think that both Provincial vessels as well as American vessels catch more mackerel outside a line three miles from shore taking one year with another than they catch inside that line—I never fished near land for codfish in the Gulf but always out of sight of land—their bait for codfishing in the North Bay they, the Americans, buy mostly from Provincial fishermen along the British coasts—they mostly buy herring by the hundred paying about one dollar to \$1⁵⁰/₁₀₀ a hundred, this pays the Provincial fishermen much better than salting the herring and putting them in barrels—I think about one half of the crew of American fishing vessels in the Gulf are men having their homes in the British Provinces—it is a great advantage that the American fishing vessels come to our coasts as they leave much money among our people.

Steepest Creek August 7. 1877

his
PATRICK + WALSH
mark

In presence of
JAMES G. McKEEN
OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the above named Patrick Walsh before me made Oath to subscribed the foregoing statement.

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Steep Creek in the County of Guysborough Province of Nova Scotia this 7th day of August 1877
(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 188.

George Critchet being duly sworn says: I am living at Middle Milford Guysboro County Nova Scotia—I am 37 years old from my 18th year until 4 years ago I have been out mackerel—and cod-fishing mostly in American vessels—I left off fishing because the mackerel fishing had been poor for several years and is still; whenever mackerel get to be plenty again I will be out fishing in vessels I think that in former years,

say from 10 years ago and longer the average number of the American mackerel fleet was upwards of three hundred during the season—during the same period about 30 or 40 Provincial vessels were in the Gulf of St Lawrence—the number of American vessels above referred to is intended as the number in the Gulf of St Lawrence—during the years previous to the last 10 years the average catch of mackerel was two trips for each vessel—during the last 6 or 7 years they have scarcely averaged one full cargo during the season—I think that mackerel go where they find the best and largest quantity of feed and that when the wind is off shore it drives the small fish on which mackerel feed into deeper water and the mackerel follow them and whenever there is a big fleet off shore and heave over much bait the mackerel will follow the fleet—during the years I was out fishing we did better outside a line 3 miles from shore than inside that line—on an average, I am of the opinion, about from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of all mackerel caught by vessels in the Gulf is caught outside of a line 3 miles from shore—I think that seine-fishing is very injurious to the mackerel fishery and ought to be prohibited entirely—I hope the Halifax Fishery Commission will recommend a treaty abolishing seine-fishing—it has never proved profitable in the Gulf of St Lawrence—the seines are about 25 fathoms deep and there are but few places in the Gulf deep enough for seine fishing—until the present season there were only two or three seine-fishers in the Gulf—the only bait used by mackerel fishers is clam and Porgies and that comes all from the United States—I have been out codfishing in the Bay i. e. Gulf of St Lawrence—the codfish caught by vessels in that Bay is all caught in deep water that is more than three miles from shore—the bait used for codfishing is herring and mackerel—this is mostly bought by American vessel from Provincial store-fishers—the spring-herring bait is bought per barrel at the rate of \$1.50 to \$2.00 each, fat herring is mostly bought by the hundred at the rate of about a dollar a hundred and \$2.50 per hundred fresh mackerel (300 *spring* mackerel per barrel) generally it pays the boat-fishers better to sell the fish fresh to the codfishers than to salt and pack them—I don't think that Provincial vessels catch any less mackerel on account of fishing alongside of an American fleet—I don't think that the American fishermen dry nets or cure fish on the British coasts, at least I have never seen them do it—I think that about one third of the crew of American fishing vessels visiting the Gulf are men having their homes in the British Provinces. I think that the presence of American fishing vessels on our Coasts is of considerable pecuniary advantage to our people and does not in any way interfere with their interests.

Dated Middle Millford, Guysboro Co. Aug 7th 1877

GEORGE CRITCHETT

In presence of: }
OSCAR MALMROS }

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH.

I hereby Certify that the above named George Critchett before me made oath to and subscribed the foregoing statement

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Middle Milford in the County of Guysborough Province of Nova Scotia this 7th day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN
Notary Public

No. 189.

I Christopher Carrigan do solemnly declare that I am twenty years old—am by occupation a fisherman and that I am living at Lower Milford in the County of Guysborough in the Province of Nova Scotia I have been out mackerel fishing in the North Bay during the six years next preceding the Summer of 1876—during the time I was fishing in the North Bay I think the American Mackerel fleet fishing in the North Bay would average about one hundred Vessels, the Vessels in which I was fishing during that time averaged per Season I think a Catch of about 200 barrels per Season. I think that during the 6 years I was in the North Bay the Mackerel fleet from the Provinces fishing in the North Bay was about 20 vessels

Provincial Mackerel fishing Vessels would—catch as many fish when side by side with American fishing vessels as if fishing by themselves—I do not know how many of the hundred American Vessels named above were Mackerel fishers and how many were Codfishers the Vessels in which I was Mackerel fishing used Porgies & Clams only as bait I have been two trip in the North Bay in Provincial Mackerel fishing Vessels and they also used only Porgies & Clams for bait.

As far as I know the Americans do not cure their fish or dry their nets on the Coasts of the British Provinces

I was out this spring & last spring in American Herring fishing Vessels to the Magdalens I think there were from 30 to 40 American Herring fishing Vessels there. Each Spring these Vessels Employ on an average two Men and two Boats from the British Provinces and pay on an average for Each Man & Boat about 30 dollars for the trip lasting about 3 weeks this Spring the American Herring Vessels at the Magdalen Islands did not average a Catch of over 300 barrels Each last Spring they all had full fares averaging about one thousand barrels

The presence of the American fishing Vessels during the season around the Coasts of the British Provinces is a great pecuniary advantage to the people of these Provinces from the large amount of money they expend among us and the large number of our men they employ in their Vessels

And (I do solemnly declare that) I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th Year of Her Majestys Reign entitled an Act for suppression of Voluntary and Extra-judicial Oaths

Dated at Lower Milford County Guysborough this 8th day of August 1877

CHRISTOPHER. CARRIGAN

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the above named Christopher Carrigan voluntarily declared to and subscribed before me the foregoing solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Lower Milford in the County of Guysborough Province of Nova Scotia this 8th day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G MCKEEN
Notary Public

No. 190.

William T. England being duly sworn says: I am fifty six years old, live at middle Millford Guysboro' County N. S. since I was 11 years old up to about 7 years ago I have been out fishing in fishing vessels, mostly American vessels, that is I have been fishing in vessels for 40 years, during the last 7 years I have been boat fishing and farming—as far as I know the Americans don't dry their nets on the British Coasts nor do they cure their fish on them—the bait used for mackerel is Porgies and clams and these all come from the United States—herring is now but very rarely used for bait and never except by Provincial vessels—the bait for codfish used by Americans in the Gulf of St Lawrence is mostly caught by themselves on the fishing grounds by the Americans and caught consequently in the deep seas—I have often sold bait to the Americans going to the grand banks of Newfoundland codfishing—the codfishers going to the grand banks buy nearly all the bait they use, they use during the trip from 30 to 40 barrels of herring, buying it partly by the barrel, but often by the hundred—the hundred costs them from one dollar to one dollar and a quarter; it is much more profitable to the fishermen to sell their fish to the Bankers for bait than to salt and pack them in barrels and sell them to the merchants—I don't think that Provincial fishermen catch any less mackerel on account of fishing alongside of an American fleet—during some seasons or rather series of seasons there are among the mackerel a great many old ones and then the mackerel keep much more off-shore in the deep seas, then follows a series of seasons when old mackerel are very scarce and almost to have disappeared and during such periods the mackerel will keep much more in-shore—those mackerel that are comparatively young always prefer to keep more in-shore—I have never known as small an American cod and mackerel fleet in the Gulf of St Lawrence as during the last two years and especially last year because the catch of mackerel was very poor. The American fleet, leaves every season, especially when mackerel are plenty considerable money among us and are therefore and because they employ many of our men of considerable benefit to our coasts and as far as I know they don't do any harm to any of our interest—all along the Strait of Canso the American fishing vessels that go to the Magdalen Islands herring fishing, about on an average 40 (fourty) sails a season, hire boats and men—they each hire on an average 3 or 4 boats with as many men for an average trip of from 3 to 4 weeks—they pay as high as $\$30_{\frac{00}{100}}$ to $\$35_{\frac{00}{100}}$ for a man and boat—I myself went this spring with an American herring catcher to the Magdalen Islands—I was three weeks away and got $\$35_{\frac{00}{100}}$ for the trip—

Dated Middle Millford Guysboro Co. Nova Scotia August 7th 1877

his
WILLIAM T. + ENGLAND
mark.

In presence of:
OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the above named William T. England voluntarily made oath to and subscribed before me the foregoing statement

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Middle Milford in the Co of Guysborough Province of Nova Scotia this 7th day of August 1877
(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 191.

I, Martin Ryan do solemnly declare that : I am living at Middle Milford, County of Guysboro'—I am 63 years old—have been fishing in mackerel vessels over thirty years—about 7 years ago I left off Bay-fishing in vessels since that time I have been boatfishing and farming—the Americans do not as far as I know dry their nets or cure their fish on British coasts—Provincial vessels do not according to my experience catch any smaller quantity of mackerel on account of fishing alongside of an American mackerel fleet in the Gulf of St Lawrence—while I was out fishing in the Gulf the Americans, during the time they had the privilege of fishing inshore as well as at other times when they had to fish in limits, caught nearly all their mackerel outside the 3 mile line from shore it was only an odd vessel that went in-shore and caught their mackerel there—the mackerel during most of the years I was in the Gulf mackerel fishing kept mostly in the deep water and not more than one fourth of the entire catch of the American vessels in which I was was caught inside a line 3 miles from shore I have always fished in American vessels with the exception of five seasons when I was fishing in Provincial vessels—the bait used by the mackerel vessels in which I fished was Porgies and clams, we used no other bait—Porgies and clams all comes from the United States—between one third to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the crew of the American fleet of mackerel fishing vessels are men having their homes in the British Provinces—the Americans have much benefited the people here in the Strait of Canso—the American herring fishers that come here in the spring give the first relief to our poor people and if it was not for the American fishing vessels on our coasts a very great number of our laboring men would be without employment, the great number of the American mackerel fleet come to the Gulf of St Lawrence from about the 10th of July—the mackerel fishery has much fallen off and during the last three years the catch of mackerel has not been a paying one at all; during the last two years mackerel fishing has been almost a failure; and I do solemnly declare that I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of her Majestys reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated Middle Millford August 7th 1877.

MARTIN RYAN

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the above named Martin Ryan voluntarily declared to and subscribed before me the foregoing solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Middle Milford in the County of Guysborough Province of Nova Scotia this 7th day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 192.

I, Philipp Ryan do solemnly declare that : I am living at Middle Milford, I am 42 years of age—I think I was about 16 years when I first went out fishing in the Gulf of St Lawrence in fishing vessels—I have mostly been mackerel fishing although some seasons I have been Cod-

fishing in the Bay—I left off going in fishing vessels in 1872—the American fishermen don't dry their nets nor cure their fish on our coasts as far as I know—during the last 8 or 10 years mackerel fishing has much fallen off and during the last two years as far as I can hear mackerel fishing has almost been a failure—Porgies and clams as far as I know tis universally used in the Bay as bait although a few Provincial vessels may occasionally use herring—Porgies & clams get all from the States as far as I am aware—I should think that about one half of all the mackerel caught by vessels is caught outside a line 3 miles from shore and $\frac{1}{2}$ inside that line—I should say that of late years about one third of the crew of American fishing vessels was composed of men having their homes in the British Provinces—I should say the cost of outfitting an American fishing vessel is about $\frac{1}{4}$ greater than that of a Provincial vessel of the same size—And I do solemnly declare that I conscientiously believe the foregoing declaration to be true and make this statement by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of her Majesty's reign entitled An Act for the suppression of voluntary & extra judicial oaths.

Dated Middle Milford August 7th 1877.

PHILIP RYAN

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the afore named Phillip Ryan voluntarily declared to and Subscribed before me the foregoing Solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Middle Milford in the County of Guysborough Province of Nova Scotia this 7th day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 193.

I Andrew Lourie do solemnly declare that I am living at Lower Milford Guysboro County, Nova Scotia I am a fisherman by occupation I have been fishing in the Gulf of St Lawrence about thirty years up to 5 years ago—I am 56 years of age the American fishing fleet fishing for mackerel begin to arrive in the North Bay about the middle of June but the greater number of mackerel vessels don't leave the States until after the 4th of July—Pogies and clams are the bait used for mackerel fishing, herring is only used as bait when the vessels are out of Pogies & clams—herring is not as good a bait as pogies and clams—I have never seen American fishermen dry their nets or cure fish on the shores of British Provinces—the fishing alongside of American mackerel vessels don't lessen in my opinion the catch of mackerel by Provincial vessels I think they catch quite as many when fishing side by side of American vessels—of late years I have heard that more mackerel are caught in-shore but when I went fishing the heft of mackerel that were caught were caught outside a line three (3) miles from shore—I have also often been codfishing in the Bay—the codfish is all caught outside a line three miles from shore—the bait used for codfishing is herring mackerel, squid and clams in the spring—the American Codfishers in the Bay procure their bait in the spring at the Magdalen Islands from the shore fishermen and in summer they catch their own bait wherever they may happen to be fish-

ing—I think that the presence of American fishing vessels on our coasts is a pecuniary advantage to our people as they spend much money and give employment to many of our people And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths.

Dated at Lower Milford August 8th 1877.

ANDREW LAURIE

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the above named Andrew Lowrie voluntarily declared to and Subscribed the foregoing Solemn declaration before me

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Lower Milford in the County Guysborough. Province of Nova Scoti a this 8th day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 194.

I Thomas England do Solemnly declare that I am living at Middle Milford, Guysborough County Nova Scotia, I am about 29 Years old—during the last 10 Years I have been out Mackerel fishing and during one of those 10 Seasons I have been also Codfishing in the Gulf of St Lawrence—I have mostly been netfishing in the Spring and hookfishing during the summer—I suppose that Provincial vessels fishing alongside of American Mackerel Catchers would not on that account catch a smaller quantity of Mackerel that they would do otherwise—Porgies and Clams are the bait used by Mackerel vessels—occasionally a Provincial vessel may use a little herring as bait.—My own experience is that more Mackerel are caught outside a line 3 miles from shore than inside that line—the Americans don't dry their nets on the British Coasts or cure their fish there as far as I am aware—the American fishing fleet especially when Mackerel are plenty leave considerable Money on Our Coasts and I think that their presence on these Coasts are of great pecuniary advantage to our people

And I make this Solemn declaration Conscientiously beleiving the same to be true and by Virtue of an Act passed during the 37th Year of Her Majestys Reign entitled An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extrajudicial Oaths.

Dated at Middle Milford in the County of Guysborough N S. August 7, 1877

his
THOMAS × ENGLAND
mark

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the above named Thomas England declared to and subscribed the foregoing solemn declaration before me

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Middle Milford in the County of Guysborough N. S. this 7th day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 195.

I am forty six years of age and a fisherman by occupation, I am living at Lower Milford Guysboro County Nova Scotia I have been fishing in the North Bay about 14 years up to and inclusive of the season of 1873 whenever I was not out fishing in vessels I have been boat-fishing I have never seen American fishermen dry their nets or cure fish on the shores of the British Provinces—I do not think that a Provincial vessel if well fitted out will catch a less quantity of mackerel on account of fishing alongside of an American mackerel fleet—I should think that fully one third of the crew of the American fishing fleet fishing off the Coasts of the British North American Provinces is composed of natives who are residents of these Provinces—the bait used for mackerel catching is clams and porgies and these all come from the United States—herring is but rarely used as a bait for mackerel—the codfish caught by the American vessels is all caught in the deep seas more than 3 miles from land their bait consists in fresh herring or mackerel—in the spring they buy it from Provincial boat fishers on the coasts of the British Provinces and during the rest of the season they mostly catch their bait in nets on the deep seas where they happen to be for cod-fishing—the American Mackerel fleet begins to arrive in the North Bay about the middle of June but the greatest number of the American Mackerel fleet do not leave home for the Bay until after the 4th day of July—About 7 or 8 years ago the mackerel fishery in the North Bay began to fall off and the last two years were particularly bad—ten years ago and upwards the average catch of mackerel consisted in about 2 full fares for each vessel but during the last 6 or 7 years I don't think that mackerel vessels averaged one full fare during the season—I think that the presence of American fishermen on our coasts has pecuniarily benefited our people as they spend considerable money and give employment to many of our men And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths. Dated Lower Milford August 8th 1877

RUFUS CARRIGAN

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the above named Rufus Carrigan voluntarily declared to and subscribed before me the foregoing solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Lower Milford in the County of Guysborough Province of Nova Scotia this 8th day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 196.

I Edward Walsh do solemnly declare that I am living at Lower Milford Guysboro County, Nova Scotia, I am by occupation a fisherman—for ten or twelve years I have been fishing in American vessels from about 1853 to 1865 since that time I have been net-fishing except one season 5 years ago when I was out fishing in a Nova Scotia vessel in the North Bay—the mackerel fishers from the United States begin to arrive in the North Bay about the 15th of June but the greater number of American Mackerel catchers don't arrive until after the 4th of July—

during late years the mackerel runs closer into the land but formerly when mackerel were still plenty say 10 to 15 years ago about as many mackerel were caught both by Provincials and Americans outside a line 3 miles from shore as there were in-shore—the American Codfishers in the North Bay get their bait in the spring from the fishermen on the coasts of Nova Scotia and the Magdalen Islands; during the summer the American Codfishers in the Bay catch their own bait on the deep seas wherever they may happen to fish—I think on an average an American Codfisher in the North Bay buys about 30 barrels of herring on the coasts of the Provinces for bait—I think that the presence of American fishermen on our coasts of considerable pecuniary advantage to our people as they spend much money and employ many of our men. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extrajudicial oaths Dated at Lower Milford Guysboro County N. S. August 8th, 1877

EDWARD WELSH

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH

I hereby Certify that the above named Edward Walsh voluntarily declared to and subscribed before the foregoing Solemn declaration

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Lower Milford in the County of Guysborough Province of Nova Scotia this 8th day of August 1877.

(Seal.)

JAMES G McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 197.

I, Charles Lowrie do solemnly declare that I am living at Middle Millford County of Guysboro Province of Nova Scotia—I am a fisherman by occupation, I am 45 years old; about 20 years ago I went first fishing in vessels in the Gulf of St Lawrence and since that time I have been out in the Bay in vessels fishing for Cod and mackerel 10 or 11 seasons—the last season I was Bay fishing was that of the great August storm of 1873 when I was not fishing in vessels I have been boat fishing and I follow that now Some of the American Mackerel vessels come to the North Bay as early as about the 10th of June but the greater number of them don't leave home for the North Bay until after the 4th of July—I should think that the average size of an American Mackerel is about 60 to 65 tons new measurement—the crew of a mackerel vessel of say 60 tons is about from 15 to 17 hands—during the years previous to the last 10 years the American mackerel vessels in the Bay averaged I think 2 trips a season landing one trip in the Strait of Canso for shipment to the States sometimes however the American vessels went home with their fare and then returned to the North Bay for a second trip—On an average I should say that during seasons when mackerel were plenty as many of them were caught outside a line 3 miles from shore as inside that line both by Provincial and American vessels—Porgies & clams are the bait used for mackerel, some Provincial vessels occasionally use however herring but this is not considered as so good a bait—I do think that Provincial mackerel vessels catch as many mackerel when fishing alongside of an American Mackerel fleet as they do when fishing by themselves provided they are as well fitted out in every respect and have as good bait as the American vessels; this is however often not the

case—the American codfisheries in the North Bay use herring and mackerel as bait, the trawlers buy most of their bait from shore fishermen but the hook codfisheries catch their own bait on the deep sea wherever they may be fishing—the codfish is all caught by the American vessels outside a line 3 miles from shore—the codfishers going to the grand banks of Newfoundland buy nearly all the bait they use of Provincial fishermen they run in usually 2 or 3 times to bait up—some of their bait, especially squid, they catch themselves on the grand banks—it pays the boatfishers better to sell their herring and mackerel to the American Codfishers in the North Bay and on the Grand Banks than to salt and pack their herring and mackerel because the price they get is usually the same and they save packing, salting and the barrels—I don't think that the mackerel vessels in the North Bay during the last 5 or 6 years have averaged per season one full fare the mackerel fishery in the Bay having fallen off so much—The fleet of American herring vessels going to the Magdalene Islands averages I should say 15 to 16 vessels each spring, these hire on an average three men and three boats each in this Province for their trip to the Magdalenes' lasting about 3 weeks paying for a man and his boat from \$30 to \$35⁰⁰/₁₀₀—one spring while I was there, there were hardly any herring, last season when I was there they averaged about 200 barrels a vessels and during good seasons they will average fully 1000 barrels of herring each—the other seasons while I was there that is about 5 besides the 3 mentioned the catch of herring was good—I think that about one half of the Crew of American fishing vessels fishing off the coasts of the British North American Provinces consist of men who have their homes in these Provinces. I think the presence of American fishing vessels on our coasts and in our harbors a great pecuniary advantage to our people; and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of an Act passed during the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign entitled an Act for the suppression of voluntary and extrajudicial oaths.

Dated Middle Milford August 9th 1877.

CHARLES LOWRIE

In presence of:

OSCAR MALMROS

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF GUYSBOROUGH N. S.

I hereby Certify that the above named Charles Lowrie declared to and subscribed the foregoing Solemn declaration before me

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Middle Milford in the County of Guysborough, Nova Scotia this 9th day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 198.

Nicholas Nicholson says and deposes on oath as follows: I am living at Port Hastings, Strait of Canso, am by trade a fisherman, have during the last six years been out fishing in American fishing vessels—my age is 30 years, I was codfishing I meant to say six years besides having been fishing for mackerel during two seasons, that is, last summer and the summer of four years ago—the codfish that is caught by the Americans is all caught outside a line 3 miles from shore and of the mackerel, as far as my experience goes, fully two thirds is caught by the Americans outside a line 3 miles from shore and about one third inside that

line—towards the latter part of the season it is that mackerel is caught more inshore—the Americans do not dry their nets on our coasts but preserve them by salting them in hogsheads—I have often seen American mackerel fishing vessels and Provincial fishing side by side and my experience is that the vessels of the Provinces catch quite as many mackerel when fishing side by side with an American fleet as they do when not alongside of them—codfishers (American) in the Gulf of St Lawrence catch most of their bait, herring principally, and mackerel in the bay, in nets, much more than 3 miles from shore—the codfishers going to the banks of Newfoundland partly buy their bait at Provincial Ports, about enough to last them three weeks, partly they catch it on the banks, if they can get squids, they prefer it—I think that fully one half of the fishermen of the American vessels fishing off the Coasts of the British Provinces are natives of the British Provinces who continue to live in the Provinces—I think that the American fishing vessels on our coasts is a great benefit to our people because they spend much money among us and give employment to many of our men.

NICHOLAS NICHOLSON

PORT HASTINGS Aug 1st 1877.

Sworn to & subscribed before me }
this 1st day of Aug 1877 }

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

PORT HASTINGS COUNTY OF INVERNESS

I hereby Certify that the above named Nicholas Nicholson voluntarily made and in my presence subscribed the foregoing affidavit

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Port Hastings aforesaid this 1st day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 199.

Duncan McEachren being duly sworn says: I am living at Craignish County of Inverness C. B.—I am about 45 years old—this is the 3d summer that I am at home not fishing, 3 years ago I was fishing for mackerel and ever since 1853 up to 3 years ago I have been mackerel fishing every summer mostly in American vessels, the Americans do not as far as I know dry their nets on our coasts nor do they cure their fish on the coasts of the Provinces—take one year with another and I should say that on an average the American mackerel fishing vessels take more mackerel outside a line 3 miles from shore than inside—all the vessels I ever was in got their bait from the States—when I was out fishing I always saw the Americans raise the mackerel first, they, the mackerel often seemed to follow the American fleet because they throw out much bait—I think that the Provincial fishing vessels catch as much mackerel when fishing side by side with an American fleet than they would or than they do when not fishing along side of the Americans—I suppose that all of two thousand men from the British Provinces that is men who have their homes in the Provinces are annually employed as fishermen in American fishing vessels—it is a benefit to the people of the Provinces that the American vessels visit our coasts because they expend much money in the coasts and give employment to many people.

DUNCAN MCEACHERN

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of August 1877

OSCAR MALMROS

U S Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF INVERNESS

I hereby Certify that the above named Duncan McEachren voluntarily made and subscribed in my presence the foregoing affidavit at Creignish in the said County this 2nd day of August 1877

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal at Cregnish aforesaid this 2nd day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 200.

George Laidlaw, being duly sworn says: I am 39 years old; am by occupation a fisherman; I was out fishing in vessels, mostly American, from 1851 to 1872 inclusive—if fishing were good I would still go out fishing and may do so next season in case mackerel are plenty—two seasons or part of them I fished on the American shore—during the time I was out fishing the American fleet in the Gulf of St Lawrence fishing for mackerel would average per year I think nearly 300 vessels—during the first year I was out the fleet of Provincial mackerel vessels in the Gulf was larger than during any of the ten following years—I don't think that during that entire time the Provincial vessels would average per year more than fifty sails in the Gulf—the mackerel fisheries fell off much during the last 6 or 8 years—I don't think that during the last 6 or 8 years more than one quarter of the mackerel have been caught of the quantity caught per season say 10 years ago—during the last 3 years there were not any mackerel in the Gulf of St Lawrence worth going for—A long time ago, about 18 years, the American mackerel vessels began to come to the Gulf as early as the 5th of June and would come thick about the middle of June—during the last 10 years the big American mackerel fleet did not leave home until after the 4th of July—during some seasons mackerel will keep more in-shore during other seasons more off-shore—American and Provincial vessels, when the former have the privilege, fish equally much in-shore and off shore—I think that when the Americans are kept outside a line 3 miles from shore that most mackerel perhaps $\frac{2}{3}$ are caught outside by Provincial vessels because the Americans have a heavy fleet and heave over much bait and the mackerel follow them—I don't think it hurts the Americans much to be kept outside the 3 mile limits,—they catch during the time they are kept *in* limits about as many mackerel as when they are allowed to fish in-shore—I think about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the mackerel I ever caught were caught outside of the 3 mile line—I think that an American mackerel vessel averages about 70 tons or 75 tons old measurement—the bait for mackerel is Porgies and clam—it is used alike by Provincials and Americans although occasionally the former use also herring but this is an exception—fishing alongside an American fleet does not lessen the catch of mackerel by Provincial vessels, on the contrary the more vessels the more bait and mackerel—I have been codfishing during two seasons or rather part of two seasons fishing for mackerel afterwards—American codfish vessels average a crew of from 10 to 12 hands—the codfishers going to the grand banks of Newfoundland buy from Provincial people about 40 barrels of fresh herring on going to the banks and afterwards catch a small portion of their supply of bait on the grand banks going again to the British coasts to

buy bait as they need it—codfish is caught outside the 3 mile line except once in a while when cod is caught inshore—the Americans as far as mackerel catching goes have according to my estimate at all seasons, when allowed to fish in-shore, caught about $\frac{2}{3}$ d of their entire catch outside of the 3 mile line—the codfishers don't catch any of their bait inside 3 miles from shore except once in a while and not worth speaking of—the American fishermen don't dry their nets on the British Coasts, they pickle their nets on their vessels in order to preserve them, nor do they cure their fish on our coasts—the best two seasons I have ever been mackerel fishing were on the American shore and it is my opinion that if the Provincial vessels were as well fitted out as the American and if they employed as many of our most experienced fishermen as the Americans do and had as good bait that the fishery on the American Coasts north of the Chesapeake Bay would be as valuable to Provincials as the British Atlantic shores to the Americans—I think the presence of American fishing vessels on our coasts a considerable advantage to our people because they leave a good deal of money

Dated Near Low Point Inverness County Aug 4th 1877

GEORGE LAIDLAW

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of August 1877

OSCAR MALMROS

U S Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF INVERNESS

I hereby Certify that the above named George Laidlaw voluntarily made and Subscribed in my presence the foregoing affidavit at Low Point in said County this 4th day of August 1877

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal this 4th August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 201.

I, Roderick McDonald of Low Point, N. S. do declare and say on oath as follows: I am living at Low Point Inverness Co. Nova Scotia, am over thirty years old, have been fishing for about 12 years until three years ago, when I knocked off because mackerel was scarce in the Bay and it did not pay—the mackerel fishing has much fallen off during the last 6 or 7 years—during these 6 or 7 years the average yearly catch has not been over $\frac{1}{3}$ of what it was 8 or ten years ago—during some seasons they will be much more off shore at other seasons more inshore—during hot weather they will work more off shore—the best place for mackerel I have ever seen is on Bradley Bank about twenty miles from North Cape P. E. I.—sometimes the Americans when mackerel is plenty will catch about $\frac{2}{3}$ d of their entire catch outside a line three miles from shore but striking an average I think that during season when mackerel is plenty Americans will catch about one half outside and the other half inside a line three miles from shore—the only bait American Mackerel vessels use is Porgies and clam and that is the bait nearly always used by Provincial vessels but sometimes the latter use herring which is not a good bait and would not do at all to use as bait in fishing alongside of vessels throwing out Porgies & clam—All the Porgies and clam used as bait in the Gulf of St Lawrence comes from the United States—I think the Provincial fishermen catch as many mackerel fishing alongside of an American fleet as they would do if no Americans were in the

Gulf because a large fleet heaves over much bait and raises mackerel better than a small number of vessels could do—I think that about half of our fishermen from Cape Breton and on the Nova Scotia side of the Strait of Canso find employment in American fishing vessels and if they were not so employed they would have very hard times. I think the coming of American fishermen to our coasts is a great benefit to our people especially when the American fleet in these waters is large. So help me God.

his
RODERICK + McDONALD
mark

Sworn to & subscribed in presence of
JAMES G. McKEEN

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
LOW POINT INVERNESS COUNTY

I hereby certify that on the 3d day of August 1877 personally appeared before me the above named Roderick McDonald and was by me duly sworn to the above and foregoing Declaration which he subscribed by affixing his mark at the foot of said declaration

Attested: OSCAR MALMROS
U. S. Consul.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
COUNTY OF INVERNESS

I hereby Certify That the above named Roderick McDonald voluntarily made and subscribed in my prence the foregoing affidavit at Low Point in said County.

Gived under my hand and Notarial Seal this 3rd day of August 1877
(Seal.) JAMES G. McKEEN,
Notary Public.

No. 202.

I, Daniel McDonald do say on oath that: I am living at Low Point Inverness County Nova Scotia, am a fisherman by occupation, I have been fishing mostly in American but partly also in Nova Scotia fishing vessels I knocked off fishing about 4 years ago because the fisheries that is mackerel fishing had so much fallen off that it did not pay to go fishing; ever since the last 6 or 7 years the mackerel fisheries have been getting worse—10 or 12 years or longer there were about 400 or 500 American mackerel vessels in the bay of St Lawrence, during the same time there were about a hundred Provincial fishing vessels in the Bay—the only bait used for mackerel, or almost the only, consists in Porgies and clams and these all come from the United States whether used by Provincials or Americans; a few English vessels use also a little fat herring but this is used in quantities hardly worth mentioning the Americans neither dry their nets nor cure their fish on the British coasts—I don't think there were over fifty mackerel fishing vessels either Provincials or Americans in the Bay of St Lawrence—I have also been codfishing and know that the codfish caught by Americans is all caught more than 3 miles three miles from shore—during most of th· seasons I went fishing by far the greater portion of mackerel caught by the American fishing vessels were caught outside a line 3 miles from shore, in some years the mackerel keep more outside in the deep sea at other seasons they are found in greater numbers in shore—of late years the mackerel have kept close to the shore—ten years ago

and for many years before that mackerel were much more plenty off-shore, say from 4 to 10 miles from shore and a large proportion were caught still farther off from land—I think that the Provincial vessels in case they are as good and well fitted out as the American would catch as much mackerel and I don't think that fishing alongside of American fishing vessels interferes with the catch of Provincial vessels, I think they catch quite as many mackerel fishing side by side with the Americans as they would do otherwise—I think that about one half of the crew of the American vessels visiting the Gulf of St Lawrence is composed of Natives of the Provinces who have their homes in these Provinces. The American fishing vessels buy large quantities of vegetables, meal, and many other articles, they spend much money among people and when the American fishing fleet on our coasts is small money is scarce there are plenty of American fishing vessels on our coasts there is plenty of money among the people; and I do solemnly swear that the foregoing statements now made by me are true according to the best of my belief and knowledge; so help me God.

Dated Low Point Inverness Co. August 3d 1877.

his
DANIEL + McDONALD
mark

Subscribed & sworn to before me Aug 3d 1877

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF INVERNESS

I hereby Certify that the above namd Daniel McDonald voluntarily made and Subscribed in my presence the foregoing affidavit at Low Point in said County

Given under my hand & notarial Seal this 3rd day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. MCKEEN

Notary Public

No. 203.

I, Dougald McKinnon of Long Point, Inverness County, Nova Scotia, say and depose on oath that: I am living at Long Point, Inverness County Nova Scotia—I have been fishing for about the last twenty years partly in American partly in Provincial vessels, mostly in the former and fishing for mackerel; for part of seven or 8 seasons I have been codfishing in the Bay or on the banks of Newfoundland and afterwards fishing for mackerel—the crew of a mackerel fishing vessel averages 13 or 14 hands—the crew of American codfishing vessels averages now from 10 to 12 hands—the average wages on codfishing vessels are from twenty five to fifty dollars a hand per month according to the experience of each person in a crew—of late years most men go on shares—I should think that about from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the crew of American fishing vessels is composed of fishermen who are british subjects and living in the British Provinces—during the last 5 or 6 years mackerel fishing has very much fallen off—in this Bay i. e. the Bay of St Lawrence the catch has fallen off in my opinion over fifty per cent last year it was almost an entire failure—during the times that mackerel were plenty that is before the last ten years much the greater quantity taken by Americans were taken outside a line 3 miles from the shore—but since they have become scarce they have mostly been taken inside that line—I don't think that Provincial vessels catch any smaller quantity of mackerel on

account of fishing along side of an American fleet—a large fleet of vessels has a much better chance of finding the mackerel than a few vessels by themselves would have—I would rather take my chance in the Bay mackerel fishing when there were 200 vessels in the Bay than when there are only twenty vessels—according to my estimate the average expenditure of an American fishing vessel in the several ports of the British Provinces during the season would amount to about \$200 or over, that is of a vessel making only one trip during the season—in case a vessel lands her cargo on these coasts for re-shipment to the States I should think that all her expenses including a complete re-outfit would average a thousand dollars or over—I think the coming of American fishing vessels to our coasts a greater advantage to our people, especially when the American fishing vessels come in great numbers. the American fishermen do not dry their nets or cure their fish on the coasts of the British Provinces—All the codfish caught by Americans is caught outside a line 3 miles from shore—there are about on an average, taking the last 10 years, from three to four American halibut fishers off the Coasts of the British waters, they, the halibut are as a rule caught outside a line three miles from shore; it is an exception when they are caught inside that line—The bait for mackerel mostly comes from the States—there is no bait in the Dominion for mackerel fishers—The American codfishers bring their bait partly from home, partly they buy it in the Provinces or catch outside the 3 miles from shore. And I do solemnly declare on oath that according to the best of my knowledge and belief the above and foregoing statements made by me are true. So help me God.

Dated Long Point, Inverness Co. August 2nd 1877.

DOUGALD McKINNON

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of August 1877

OSCAR MALMROS

U. S. Consul

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

COUNTY OF INVERNESS

I hereby Certify that the above named Dougald McKinnon voluntarily made and subscribed in my presence the foregoing affidavit

Given under my hand & Notarial Seal at Long Point County of Inverness this 2nd day of August 1877

(Seal.)

JAMES G. McKEEN

Notary Public

No. 204.

DOMINION OF CANADA

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX SS

I Moses C. Morgan of Halifax in the County of Halifax in the Province of Nova Scotia Merchant being solemnly sworn do make oath and say as follows:

1st I say that I am at present a fish dealer in the City of Halifax engaged in buying fish for export—and have been so engaged in the said City for about eight years. I am intimately acquainted with the fish trade and generally with all matters relating to the fisheries of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

I was formerly of Gloucester in the State of Massachusetts, where I was connected with the fishery business aforesaid.

2nd. I say that it has for several years been the practice for the Col-

onial fishermen, who have been engaged in the mackerel fishery along the shores of Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton to procure a portion of their bait for so fishing from United States Fishermen the said bait consisting of pogies or manhaden being brought from the United States by the fishermen of that Country.

3rd The boat fisheries of Colonial fishermen are prosecuted for the taking of Cod, haddock, hake, pollock, herrings, lobsters and mackerel. Of the fish so taken in boats by Colonial fishermen, the largest portion is codfish, as is shewn by the fact that the product of the Codfishery of Nova Scotia in 1876 amounted to Two Millions five hundred and forty nine thousand dollars while the other descriptions of fish taken in the same year, exclusive of mackerel, amounted to two millions three hundred and forty two thousand dollars more. The in-shore mackerel fishery of Nova Scotia amounted that year, as appears by the Report of the Canadian Fishery Commissioner, only to about seven hundred and fourteen thousand dollars constituting not more than about one eighth of the aggregate product of the inshore Colonial boat fishery of Nova Scotia.

4th Of the Mackerel caught inshore, that is to say, within three miles of the shore in boats by the fishermen of this Province not more than one twentieth part of the aggregate catch is taken on that part of the Nova Scotia or Cape Breton Coast which is frequented by mackerel fishermen from the United States and which is that part of the coast lying on the Northern side of the Island of Cape Breton and stretching between the Strait of Canso and Sydney in said Island.

5th Cod and halibut are caught by United States fishermen only in the deep sea or on the several off-shore fishing banks outside of the three Mile limit.

6th The Mackerel taken by United States Fishermen in-shore are caught only around the shores of the Magdalen Islands around the shores of Prince Edward Island on the east coast of New Brunswick lying in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and the North Coast of Cape Breton extending from the Strait of Canso to Sydney. All other mackerel caught by United States fishermen off the Coasts of British North America are taken outside of the three mile limit in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence.

7th The inshore fisheries are prosecuted by United States fishermen on the Coasts of the British North American Provinces solely for mackerel and not in boats, but in vessels which only approach the shore to fish during the months of July August, September and October. At other seasons they prosecute the mackerel fishery in the deep sea fisheries of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence outside of the three mile limit.

8th The whole mackerel catch by United States fishermen in British North American waters in the year 1876 I believe will not exceed in value thirty thousand dollars, the reason for the catch being so small was that for some years past the Mackerel fishery could be prosecuted more advantageously along the Coasts of the United States than on the coasts of British North America. Last year was one of the most profitable and productive years on record for the mackerel fisheries on the United States Coast.

9th. The in-shore fisheries, that is to say: the fisheries within the three mile limit on the British North American Coast are only prosecuted by United States fishermen for mackerel and in vessels, not in boats—

10th. The catch of Mackerel both inshore and offshore by Provincial fishermen constitutes only about one sixth of the aggregate catch of

fish. Of the Mackerel caught by United States fishermen on the British North American Coast not more than one fourth are caught inshore or within the three mile limit. The rest are caught outside the three mile limit. All other descriptions of fish caught by United States fishermen are caught on the banks and constitute the great bulk of the fisheries.

The proportions which I have mentioned in this section of my affidavit are arrived at by taking an average of the results of fishing seasons through several years.

But little injury if any in my opinion can result to Colonial fishermen from United States fishermen coming inshore to fish for mackerel. The large quantity of bait thrown from United States fishing vessels attracts the fish in large numbers and enables the Colonial fishermen in boats to prosecute the fishery much more successfully than they could otherwise do; and experience has shewn that the free access of United States fishermen to the inshore fishery has not diminished the Colonial boat fisheries, but that such boat fisheries have been steadily increasing since such free access was given and so far from its being found disadvantageous to fishermen to have a number of vessels fishing in company. It is quite usual and customary for large numbers of such vessels to be engaged fishing for a length of time side by side and the practical result of such a mode of fishing is that the fish are attracted by the bait thrown in large quantities from the vessels as aforesaid and the fishing of Colonial fishermen in boats is greatly facilitated thereby.

11th Another advantage which Colonial fishermen derive from United States fishermen having access to the British North American fisheries, is by the former procuring bait from the latter as deposed to in the second paragraph of this affidavit. A further advantage to the Colonial fishermen is that United States fishermen buy from the Colonial fishermen herrings for bait to prosecute the Bank codfishery. The United States fishermen do not catch herring in British North American waters but buy such quantities as they require for bait for the Cod fishery from the Colonial fishermen. And another advantage accruing to the Provinces from the United States fishermen having access to the British North American fisheries arises from the fact that the United States fishermen purchase from traders in the Colonies supplies, not only of bait, but of ice, provisions, clothing, barrels salt, nets, twines and many other articles. The purchases of bait and such other articles as are herein mentioned give employment to large numbers of persons and give a very important trade to a number of settlements along the coast, such as Prospect, Canso, Port Mulgrave and Louisburg. At Prospect alone about one thousand nets were set to catch herring for bait to be sold to United States fishermen last season. Ice to the quantity of seven hundred or eight hundred tons is usually bought there by the United States fishermen and in that place alone last season the purchases by the last named fishermen amounted from ten thousand dollars to fifteen thousand dollars.

The procuring of bait on the coasts of the Colonies by the United States fishermen is quite as beneficial to the Colonists as to those fishermen and the herring so supplied to them as bait is not used for mackerel nor for any fishery inshore, but for the Bank fishery. During the last ten or fifteen years very few of the United States fishermen use salt bait they formerly brought salt bait with them and caught fresh fish, as they could for fresh bait, but now most of them procure their fresh

bait from the Coast and keep it in the ice houses, with which most of their vessels are furnished.

12th. During the last few years the mackerel fishery in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence has been almost abandoned by Colonial and United States fishing vessels and is being almost entirely prosecuted in boats by Colonial fishermen. The fishery on the American Coast has been so much more productive of late years as to attract many of those, who formerly came to the Gulf; And the decline of that fishery in the Gulf being such as to cause many of the Colonial fishing vessels that formerly resorted there to be employed in other ways.

At the time of the treaty the mackerel fishery along the British North American coast was considered valuable and important to the United States fishermen, but at the present time the deep sea fisheries and the fisheries on their own Coasts are principally relied on by them.

13th. A very large quantity of fresh fish, consisting of Salmon and halibut and in the winter of frozen herrings caught by Colonial fishermen find a market in the United States probably from two hundred thousand to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth of fresh Salmon alone being exported annually from the British Provinces of North America to the United States. A large number of vessels load annually at Fortune Bay in the Island of Newfoundland with frozen herrings there caught by Colonial fishermen for the United States Market and employment is thereby given and benefits received by large numbers of Colonial fishermen who are engaged in that branch of the fisheries, which is the principal means of support of a large part of the local population during the winter season. At Grand Manaan and vicinity also large quantities of herring are caught by Colonial fishermen for the United States Market and these are largely shipped to the United States in Colonial vessels, and the same statement herein deposed to, as regards the benefits accruing to the population at Fortune Bay applies to that at Grand Manaan.

Although previous to the Washington Treaty fresh fish as herein enumerated were admitted to the United States Markets free of duty, yet their admission was subject to changes in legislation from time to time instead of the Markets being permanently open as at present.

14th. The United States afford the only markets for mackerel of number one and number two grade all fat herring not consumed in the Dominion and of number one Salmon caught by Colonial fishermen. Such descriptions of fish find a market in the United States alone.

15th In this affidavit the statements which I have made in the present tense apply to the state of things which has existed for the last seven years except where I have expressed a different meaning.

M. C. MORGAN.

Sworn to before me at Halifax in the County of Halifax in the Province of Nova Scotia this 16th day of August A D 1877.

(Seal.)

W. D. HARRINGTON. J. P.

No. 205.

I Richard Beazley of Halifax in the County of Halifax fisherman being solemnly sworn do make oath and say as follows:

1st I say that for forty years last past, I have been engaged in the fisheries of Nova Scotia, Labrador, Newfoundland Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Gulf of St Lawrence and Baie. des Chaleurs besides the deep sea fisheries as a fisherman and dealer in fish and have

been for that time intimately acquainted with the condition of the said fisheries and the manner in which fishing has been carried on by Colonial and United States fishermen.

2nd The same kinds and descriptions of fish that are found on the coasts and shores of the British North American Provinces are to be found on the coasts and shores of the United States which are now made available to Colonial fishermen by the Treaty of Washington and on the coasts and shores of the United States several kinds of fish are procured which cannot be found on the coasts and shores of the British North American Provinces such as bass, porgies and other kinds,

3rd Nearly all the bait for mackerel used by Colonial fishermen is and must be procured by them from the United States fishermen who come to the coast of British North America under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington. The bait chiefly used for mackerel and the best bait are porgies which are all taken on the coast of the United States and generally within three miles of the shore. It is a great benefit to Colonial fishermen to be able to procure such bait from the United States fishermen.

4th The United States fishermen who come to the fisheries off the coast of British North America principally pursue the deep sea fisheries outside the three mile limit. About five sixths of the fish taken by United States fishermen off the British North American coast are taken outside the three mile limit.

5th The fish taken inshore by United States fishermen is almost wholly mackerel and not more than one fourth of the mackerel taken by them in the vicinity of the British North American coast is taken inside the three mile limit while about three fourths, taking the average of seasons is procured outside the three mile limit. The fishery in British North American waters is not carried on in boats by the United States fishermen but in vessels and when they are fishing inshore for mackerel it is principally around the shores of the Magdalen Islands and of Prince Edward Island and on the coast of New Brunswick, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and on the north coast of Cape Breton. The Colonial fishermen fish principally in boats,

6th Colonial fishermen are benefitted and not injured in the prosecution of the fisheries by United States fishermen being allowed to fish within the inshore limits. By such permission being given the Colonial fishermen are enabled to purchase their bait from the United States fishermen which is a great advantage to the former and besides that the throwing of bait by United States fishing vessels attracts the fish and enables the Colonial fishermen fishing in boats to fish much more successfully than they could otherwise do. For this reason it is quite common for a large number of fishing vessels and boats to be seen engaged in fishing for a length of time side by side such a mode of fishing being found advantageous to all but especially to those who are fishing in boats.

7th. The cost of fishing vessels and of the outfits for the same in the British Provinces is at least twenty-five per cent lower than the cost thereof in the United States and as a consequence of this difference in prices a large number of United States fishing vessels procure their outfits in the British North American Provinces.

8th The United States fishermen use herring almost entirely for bait in the codfishery which they prosecute on the Banks and in the deep sea fishery outside the three mile limit and they procure almost all the herring and other bait which they use for that purpose from Colonial

fishermen. In addition to bait the United States fishermen purchase from the people of the British Provinces large quantities of ice, salt, barrels, provisions, clothing, nets, twines, and other articles used in the prosecution of the fisheries. The trade with the United States fishermen for such articles is of great benefit to the people of the British Provinces and is the principal trade of some of the ports of Nova Scotia. Large quantities of fresh fish are also purchased by Americans in some parts of the British Provinces for shipment to the United States and such shipments are mostly made in Colonial vessels.

9th Of late years the drying and curing of fish by the United States fishermen is principally done on the decks of their vessels and they seldom land to dry nets or to cure fish or to repack them or to transship cargoes.

10th The Treaty of Washington so far as the privileges of the fisheries are concerned is I verily believe as beneficial to the people of the British Provinces as to the people of the United States, both will be equally benefitted by its provisions being carried out.

11th For all number one and number two mackerel, for all fat hering not consumed at home and for all number one salmon from the British Provinces the United States afford the only market and the duties paid on the exportation of such fish from the British Provinces before the Treaty of Washington amounted to a very large sum of money annually and the opening of the United States markets by said Treaty to such exportations has been a very great benefit to the people of the British Provinces.

12th For several years past the inshore fisheries of the British Provinces have not been so much resorted to by United States fishermen as they were formerly and they are being less and less resorted to every year by such fishermen, one reason for this fact is the change in the modes of fishing pursued by such fishermen and another is the fact that the mackerel fishery on the coasts of the British Provinces has for several years past been declining while it has been improving during the same period on the coasts of the United States.

13th The fisheries on the coasts of the United States would be very nearly as valuable to Colonial fishermen as to the United States fishermen if the former chose to avail themselves of the concession of the Washington Treaty in that particular, and latterly they are beginning to avail themselves of that fishery which is annually becoming more valuable.

14th In this affidavit the statements which I have made in the present tense apply to the state of things which has existed for the past six years except where I have expressed a different meaning.

RICHARD BEAZLEY

Sworn to before me at Halifax in the County of Halifax this Thirteenth day of June A D 1877

(Seal.)

WM McKERRON
Notary Public

No. 206.

I John Glazebrook of Halifax in the County of Halifax in the Province of Nova Scotia Fisherman being solemnly sworn do make oath and say as follows:

1st I say that for forty five years last past I have been engaged in the fisheries of British North America and have been for that time intimately acquainted with the condition of the said fisheries and the man-

ner in which fishing has been carried on by the Colonial and United States fishermen.

2nd The same kinds and descriptions of fish that are found in the fisheries mentioned in the last paragraph are to be found on the coasts and shores of the United States which are now thrown open to Colonial fishermen by the Treaty of Washington and also several other kinds such as Bass and pogies which are not to be found on the coasts and shores of British North America.

3rd The greater part of the bait used by Colonial fishermen in the mackerel fishery is procured from the United States and is furnished to said fishermen by United States fishermen who come to the coasts of the Provinces under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington. The best and most commonly used bait for mackerel are pogies which are taken from the coasts of the United States and generally inshore and the procuring of such bait is a great benefit to Colonial fishermen.

4th Much the larger proportion of the fisheries pursued by United States fishermen off the Atlantic Coast of British North America consists of the deep sea fisheries outside of the three mile limit. I believe that at least three fourths if not five sixths of the fish taken by United States fishermen off the shores of the British Provinces are taken outside the three mile limit.

5th The United States fishermen pursue the inshore fisheries almost solely for mackerel and of the mackerel taken by such fishermen on the coasts of British North America much the smaller part—in fact only about one fourth is taken inside while about three fourths are taken outside the three mile limit taking the average of seasons. The United States fishermen do not fish in boats when in British North American waters but in vessels. The Colonial fishermen fish principally in boats. The United States fishermen procure the mackerel which they catch in shore chiefly around the shores of the Magdalen Islands around the shores of Prince Edward Island—on the east coast of New Brunswick in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and on the north coast of Cape Breton.

6th Colonial fishermen are benefitted and not injured in the prosecution of the fisheries by the United States fishermen being allowed to fish within the inshore limit—they are benefitted by being enabled to purchase bait as before mentioned and are enabled to take larger quantities of fish than they could do if fishing alone by reason of the fish being attracted by the quantities of bait thrown from the United States fishing vessels.

7th The cost of fishing vessels and of outfits therefor in the British Provinces is at least twenty five per cent lower than the cost thereof in the United States and as a consequence of this difference in prices a large number of United States fishing vessels procure their outfits in the British Provinces yearly.

8th The United States fishermen procure the herring which is almost the only bait which they use for the deep sea codfishery by purchase from Colonial fishermen—they make such purchases in large quantities buying all or nearly all the bait they need for that fishery from Colonial fishermen and they buy in addition from the inhabitants along the coasts of the British Provinces large quantities of ice salt barrels provisions nets twines cables clothing and all other articles used in the prosecution of the fisheries. This is the principal trade of some of the ports of Nova Scotia and is a great benefit to the inhabitants. Large quantities of fresh fish are also purchased by Americans in some parts of the British Provinces for shipment to the United States and such shipments are chiefly made in Colonial vessels.

9th Of late years the drying and curing of fish by United States fishermen is principally done on the decks of their vessels and they seldom land to dry nets or to cure fish or to repack them or to trans-ship cargoes.

10th The Treaty of Washington so far as the privileges of the fishermen are concerned is I verily believe as beneficial to the people of the British Provinces as to the people of the United States.

11th The United States afford the only market for all number one and number two mackerel for all fat herring not consumed at home and for all number one salmon from the British Provinces and the duties paid on the exportation of such fish from the British Provinces before the Treaty of Washington amounted to a very large sum of money annually. The provisions of the Treaty of Washington by which said market is made free are a very great benefit to the people of the British Provinces.

12th For several years past the inshore fisheries of the British Provinces have not been so much resorted to by United States fishermen as they were formerly and they are being less and less resorted to every year by such fishermen. The change in the mode of fishing pursued by such fishermen is one reason for this circumstance and another reason is that the mackerel fishery on the coasts of British North America has for several years past been declining while it has been improving during the same period on the coasts of the United States. The fisheries on the coasts of the United States would be as valuable to Colonial fishermen as to the United States fishermen if the former chose to avail themselves of the concessions of the Treaty of Washington in that particular.

13th In this affidavit the statements which I have made in the present tense apply to the state of things existing for the last six or seven years except where I have expressed a different meaning.

his
JOHN + GLAZEBROOK
mark

Sworn to before me at Halifax in the Province of Nova Scotia this 20th day of June A D 1877 being first read and explained to deponent.
(Seal.)

WM McKERRON

Notary Public.

No. 207.

I William Hays of Halifax in the County Halifax fisherman being solemnly sworn do make oath and say as follows :

1st I say that for forty years last past I have been engaged in the fisheries of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, and have been for that time intimately acquainted with the condition of the said fisheries and the manner in which fishing has been carried on by the Colonial and United States fishermen.

2nd The same kinds and descriptions of fish that are found on the coasts and shores of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island are to be found on the coasts and shores of the United States which are now made available to Colonial fishermen by the Treaty of Washington, and on the coasts and shores of the United States several descriptions of fish are procured which cannot be found on the coasts and shores of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, namely, Bass, porgies, and other kinds,

3rd The greater part of the bait used by Colonial fishermen in the mackerel fishery is and must be procured from the United States and is furnished to them by United States fishermen who come to the coasts of the Provinces under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, The best and most commonly used bait for mackerel are porgies which

are all taken from the coasts of the United States and generally inshore, and the procuring of such bait in this way is a great benefit to the Colonial fishermen.

4th Of the fisheries pursued by United States fishermen off the Atlantic coast of British North America much the larger proportion consists of the deep sea fisheries outside the three mile limit. I believe that at least three fourths if not five sixths of the fish taken by United States fishermen off the said coast last mentioned are taken outside the three mile limit,

5th The United States fishermen pursue the inshore fisheries chiefly for mackeral and of the mackeral taken by such fishermen on the Coasts of British North America about one fourth is taken inside and about three fourths outside the three mile limit, taking the average of seasons. The United States fishermen do not fish in boats when in British North American waters but in vessels, the Colonial fishermen fish principally in boats, The United States fishermen procure the mackeral which they catch inshore principally around the shores of the Magdalen Islands, around the shores of Prince Edward Island, the East coast of New Brunswick and the North coasts of Cape Breton.

6th Colonial fishermen are not injured in the prosecution of the fisheries but benefitted by the United States fishermen being allowed to fish within the inshore limits, the facility thus given for the purchase of bait is a great advantage to Colonial fishermen and in consequence of the large quantities of bait thrown from a fleet of United States fishing vessels the Colonial fishermen fishing in the vicinity of such a fleet are enabled to take much larger quantities of fish than they could if fishing alone,—

7th The cost of fishing vessels and of the outfits for the same in the British Provinces is at least twenty five per cent lower than the cost thereof in the United States and as a consequence of this difference in prices a large number of United States fishing vessels procure their outfits in the British North American Provinces

8th The United States fishermen procure the bait which they use for the deep sea codfishery which bait consists of herring by purchasing the same from Colonial fishermen, they purchase herring for such purpose in large quantities and in fact obtain all or nearly all they need in that way from Colonial fishermen and in addition to their purchases of bait the United States fishermen purchase from traders along the coasts of the British Provinces large quantities of ice, salt, barrels, provisions, nets, twines, clothing and all other articles used in the prosecution of the fisheries. The trade with the United States fishermen for such articles is of great benefit to the people of the British Provinces and is the principal trade of some of the ports of Nova Scotia, Large quantities of fresh fish are also purchased by Americans in some parts of the British Provinces for shipment to the United States and such shipments are mostly made in Colonial vessels.

9th Of late years the drying and curing of fish by United States fishermen is principally done on the decks of their vessels and they seldom land to dry nets or to cure fish or to repack them or to trans-ship cargoes,—

10th The Treaty of Washington so far as the privileges of the fisheries are concerned is, I verily believe as beneficial to the people of the British Provinces as to the people of the United States, both will be equally benefitted by such privileges being given.

11th For all number one and number two mackeral for all fat herring not consumed at home and for all number one Salmon from the British

Provinces the United States afford the only market and the duties paid on the exportation of such fish from the British Provinces before the Treaty of Washington amounted to a very large sum of money annually, and the opening of the United States Market by the Treaty of Washington to such exportation has been a very great benefit to the people of the British Provinces,

12th For several years past the inshore fisheries of the British Provinces have not been so much resorted to by United States fishermen as they were formerly and they are being less and less resorted to every year by such fishermen—one reason for this fact is the change in the modes of fishing pursued by such fishermen, Another is the fact that the mackerel fishery on the coasts of the British Provinces has for several years past been declining while it has been improving during the same period on the coasts of the United States

13th The fisheries on the coast of the United States would be as valuable to Colonial fishermen as to the United States fishermen if the Colonial fishermen chose to avail themselves of the concessions of the Washington Treaty in that particular and latterly they are beginning to avail themselves of that fishery which is annually becoming more valuable.

14th In this affidavit the statements which I have made in the present tense apply to the state of things which has existed for the past six years except where I have expressed a different meaning.

WILLIAM HAYES

Sworn to before me at Halifax in the County of Halifax in the Province of Nova Scotia this 13th day of June A D 1877

WM McKERRON

(Seal.)

Notary Public

No. 208.

The Examination of Captain William A. Molloy of Great St. Lawrence Newfoundland taken before George Henry Emerson Attorney at Law. Examiner

The said witness being sworn saith—I am a native of Newfoundland and am 27 years of age. I have been engaged in the Fishery-business all my life. There is very little inshore-fishing done by American Fisherman within three miles of the Coast of Newfoundland except bait-taking. There is no mackerel-fishing done on the Coast of Newfoundland by either American or British fisherman. There is no boat-fishing done on the inshore by American fisherman I was eight years fishing out of Gloucester six years of which I was Master—I am therefore perfectly acquainted with the American fishing in the Maritime Provinces. I have never known the American Fisherman avail themselves of the privilege of landing to dry nets, cure fish or use the shore for any other purpose in this Colony except for obtaining Water The fisherman of Newfoundland benefit very materially by intercourse with American fisherman both by traffic in bait, ice and fishing-stores and the selling by American-fisherman within the Colony, of their small-fish and oil. I think that the importance of the intercourse of American fisherman with British fisherman cannot at present be estimated. Every American Fishing vessel that comes to Newfoundland cannot get out under an outlay of from sixty to seventy dollars for bait and ice. The British fisheries for the past few years have been less productive and remunerative to those engaged in them, than formerly. The shore fisheries on

the inshore have been of very little value to those prosecuting them either from the States or Newfoundland for the past four years. The fishing by American fisherman in the Waters of the Provinces does not lessen the catch of American or British fisherman; and the presence of American Fishermen in the Provincial Waters improves the Status of the Provincial fisherman, who are much inferior to the American fisherman, and are at least a century behind the age in the manner of catching fish. If the British fishermen employed as much capital and had as much energy and enterprise as the American Fisherman I believe that the American Fishermen cannot compete on the Newfoundland coast in catching fish. The only advantage derived by American Fisherman from the Treaty of Washington 1871, is the advantage of catching bait and obtaining ice which is also of great advantage to Newfoundlanders in the way of Traffic.

WILLIAM MOLLOY

Taken before me at Saint Johns Newfoundland this 1st day of June
A D 1877

GEO H.Y EMERSON JR

Examiner—

No. 209.

The examination of Levi Griffin of Boston United States of America but at present of Saint John's Newfoundland taken before me George Henry Emerson Jr Examiner—

This Witness being sworn, saith :—

I am a native of the State of Maine but at present am fishing in Newfoundland I am thirty four years of age, and have been engaged in the fishery-business about twenty years. The American fisherman do not use and have never used the inshore fisheries for cod fishing. There is no mackerel fishing on the Coast of Newfoundland. There is no boat-fishing done by Americans on the Coast of Newfoundland. Even the Bank fishing has become less lucrative and important within the past ten years than it formerly was. To my knowledge there has been no use made by the Americans of the privilege of landing on the Coast of Newfoundland for curing the fish, drying the nets, obtaining their wood. There is no object whatever to be obtained by such landing. American fisherman generally purchase whatever they require from the people of the Island. The value to all provincial fisherman especially to Newfoundlanders cannot be too highly estimated (and will no doubt be of greater value in the future) of their intercourse with Americans. Every Fishing vessel that enters the ports of Newfoundland, belonging to Americans leaves at least Eighty dollars. Nearly all the American fisherman purchase ice, bait and stores and supplies in large quantities in Newfoundland and this trade is increasing very largely every year. I have repeatedly heard the fisherman of Newfoundland assert that it was a great benefit to them to have constant intercourse with Americans. Thousands of Barrels of bait would pass the shores of Newfoundland every year if the Americans did not come down to purchase them. This trade with the fisherman of Newfoundland for bait and ice is of great benefit to the Island and generally recognized to be so except by the large Merchants of the Island. A great impetus has been given to the fishing-business in Newfoundland since the passing of the Washington Treaty 1871. The trade of Americans with Newfoundlanders has increased at least *One hundred per. cent. per annum*, since the passing of the Treaty and is steadily increasing with great advantage to all con-

cerned. It is the real opinion of the Inhabitants of the Maratime Provinces especially Newfoundland that the incidental advantages to be derived from the presence of American fisherman in British Waters is of great value to British Fisherman is very great, and that the fisheries on the Coast of Newfoundland do not suffer to any extent, and does not lessen in any way the catch of British fisherman. If the British fisherman employed as much capital and had as much energy and enterprise as American fisherman the American Waters would be of more importance to Newfoundlanders than the British Waters are to Americans especially as there are no mackerel to be caught on the Newfoundland coast

▶ The fishing-business as a rule does not make very large returns compared with other businesses, considering the Amount of Capital and time employed in its prosecution. It is a very precarious means of living—and the “fisherman’s luck” is almost as proverbial as the “Miners luck.”

LEVI GRIFFIN

Taken before me at Saint John’s this 2nd day o^c July A D 1877

GEO. H.Y EMERSON JR

Examiner—

No. 210.

The examination of Henry A. Cobb a native Province Town Massa : but at present of Saint John’s Newfoundland taken before me George Henry Emerson, Examiner.

This witness being sworn saith : My name is Henry A. Cobb. I am 26 years of age and have been engaged in the cod and other fisheries all my life. I have been fishing on the Grand Bank for a period of ten years. It is not true that American Fishermen use the inshore fishery within three miles for cod-fishing. There are no mackerel on the Coast of Newfoundland. There is not any boat-fishing done by American fishermen on the inshore fisheries except bait-taking, which is seldom done, as American Fishermen are rarely equipped for bait-catching of any kind, and are consequently driven to purchase from the Newfoundland. The inshore fishing is of no value to American fisherman and has to my knowledge been of very little value to British-fishermen for the past ten years I have never known, in all my experience, extending over ten years of American fisherman availing themselves of the privilege of landing on the Coast of Newfoundland to dry nets, cure fish or for any other purpose. Since the Treaty of Washington the number of American fishing-vessels has not increased on the coast of Newfoundland and the only advantage derived by American fisherman is the privilege of obtaining fresh-bait from Newfoundland fishermen. The advantage derived from intercourse with American fisherman, is very great to Newfoundlanders. American fishing vessels call at the different ports on the South East and West of Newfoundland and buy bait, ice, and fishing stores to large amounts and sell their small-fish and oil. Every fishing vessel entering a Newfoundland port expends at least Seventy five dollars every trip before she leaves. This is of great advantage to the Newfoundland people especially in the outports where the fisherman is generally very poor and very destitute. It is true that the British fisheries are much less productive and less valuable than they formerly were and the inshore fishery’s on the coast of Newfoundland has been reduced about fifty per cent. in quantity and value within

the past ten years. It is the opinion of most maritime provincial fishermen that the incidental advantages derived by them from intercourse with American fishermen are very great; and that the presence of American fisherman in British Waters is not detrimental to the interests of British fishermen, either by depreciating the value of the fish by competition, or decreasing the Catch of fish in the provinces. If the British fishermen were more energetic and put more capital into their fisheries and had the same class of vessels prosecuting the fishery that the Americans have, the Mackerel fishing of the United States would be of inestimable value to them as they have no mackerel fishing in Newfoundland.

I do not think there has been any advantage obtained by American fishermen by the Treaty of Washington except taking bait. The only Mackerel fishing that the Americans prosecuted in British Waters before the passing of the Treaty was at Bay Chaleur, and that has failed from natural causes.

HENRY A COBB.

Taken before me at Saint Johns Newfoundland this 2nd day of June A D 1877.

GEO. H.Y EMERSON JR

Examiner

No. 211.

The examination of Cyrenius Brown of Trepassey in the Island of Newfoundland (formerly of the State of Maine U. S.) taken before me at Saint John's Newfoundland,

This Witness being sworn saith :—

I am a native of Bucksport in the State of Maine United States of America but at present residing in Trepassey in the Island of Newfoundland. I am sixty nine years of age. I have been engaged in the Fishery business about forty years. It is not true that American fisherman use the inshore fisheries within three miles of the Coast of Newfoundland for cod or other fishing. American fisherman fish either on the Grand Bank, St. Peters Bank or Banquero. There is no mackerel on the Coast of Newfoundland. The inshore fishery is of little or no value to American fisherman. It is never prosecuted by American fishermen. I never knew American fishermen to land on the coast of Newfoundland for the purpose of drying their nets curing their fish. This privilege is never availed of by American fishermen because they bring their fish to the States in a "green" condition, which is more profitable than drying and curing in Newfoundland, where the weather is much less suited for the cure of fish than the climate of the United States.

I think the value of American "Bankers" visiting Newfoundland is of great value to Newfoundlands. The American "Bankers" purchase large quantities of Bait and ice in Newfoundland. This practice of visiting Newfoundland for the purpose of obtaining Bait, which was hardly known ten years ago, is increasing rapidly and will be of more value to Newfoundlanders in the future. This practice increases about *twenty per. cent.* every year. Each American "Banker" spends about sixty to Seventy dollars for Bait on her visit to Newfoundland. This Traffic is of great value to Newfoundland. and the people of the country think it a great blessing to be able to sell the Bait to the Americans, which would otherwise be useless and unprofitable to any one. Newfoundlanders generally acknowledge that they receive a great deal more by free inter-

course with Americans in their fishery business than they do with either Canadian or Nova Scotian fisherman.

CYRENIUS BROWN

Taken before me at Saint Johns Newfoundland this 2nd day of July 1877.

GEO. H. Y. EMERSON JR

Examiner

No. 212.

The Examination of William Fitzgerald of St John's Newfoundland taken before me George Henry Emerson Examiner.

This witness being sworn saith :—I am thirty nine years of age. I have been engaged in the Fishery-business over twenty years. I have been fishing out of the Port of Gloucester, United States, for the past ten years. I am well acquainted with the American fishing on the Coast of Newfoundland. The Americans never did not do they now use the inshore-fishery within three miles for the purposes of cod or any other fishing except the taking of bait. There is not any mackerel fishing on the coast of Newfoundland by either American or British Fishermen. There is no boat fishing by the Americans on the Coast of Newfoundland at all. American fishermen do not come prepared for inshore fishing. Inshore fishing would not be profitable to Americans as the inshore fish would not find a market in the United States owing to the smallness of the fish. Americans do not make use in any way of the privilege granted under the Treaty of Washington of landing on the coast of Newfoundland to cure fish, dry nets or procure wood and water. Americans buy their wood and water from the Newfoundlanders. The only advantage derived by Americans under the Above Treaty is the privilege of procuring fresh-bait and ice which they always, with few exceptions, purchase in the different ports of Newfoundland. I think that the presence of American fishermen in the ports of Newfoundland purchasing stores bait ice &c is of great advantage to the people of the Colony and is of great value to the fishermen of the provinces in the way of increased traffic and will be of more importance to the people in the future. I paid last year fifty cents per hundred to Newfoundlanders for Squids for bait and I purchased about 15,000 at that price. I consider that number of Squids small for a vessel to take. I have paid as high as ninety cents per hundred for squids on the Western Coast of Newfoundland.

I think great advantages will be obtained by Newfoundland in the future by the intercourse of American fishermen with Newfoundland fishermen, quite as much as the benefits derived by American fishermen by privileges granted under the Washington Treaty. The Mutual intercourse will improve the habits and customs of the Newfoundland fishermen especially in the manner of taking and curing fish and also in giving labour to Newfoundland fishermen; which they are not at all times able to obtain. Half the population of Newfoundland are thrown out of employment when the inshore fishery fails.

his
WILLIAM + FITZGERALD
mark

Taken before me at Saint Johns this 5th day of June A D 1877 ———
GEO. H. Y. EMERSON JR

No. 213.

I, Charles H Nute Master of Sch Edward E. Webster of Gloucester and formerly Master of Sch's Ben Perley Poore, Lightfoot, Ontario & C. B. Manning—all of Gloucester, was born in Gloucester, am 32 years of age & have been engaged in the fisheries for 20 years & continuously engaged in the Grand Bank fishery for the past twelve (12) years taking Cod & Halibut for the first nine years obtained my bait upon the Banks—usually carrying from home a few barrels of Pogie Slivers to procure the first fish & afterwards fishes peas & other refuse parts of fish, also using Bird-meat,—a large quantity being obtained by catching the Hagdon with a hook—for the last three years I have bought my bait of the inhabitants of Newfoundland paying cash for the same. the holding of bait by traps and pounds by the people of N. F. enables us to obtain our bait readily & is a source of income to them and convenience to us—the people will often chase us for miles for an opportunity to bait an American fisherman,—we meet their boats off St. Peters seeking for American vessels to sell them bait,—there being a very active competition in selling bait and supplies the Newfoundlanders carry this bait to St Peters to sell to the French vessels & we could easily procure this bait there, as there are thousands of barrels annually thrown overboard for want of a market & the only object in going to Newfoundland is to obtain the bait in its freshest state—I never have caught any bait at N. F. but have purchased it when I have got any at N. F.—I have never known any American vessel to catch bait at Newfoundland having uniformly purchased the same.

I paid on this last voyage, ending Aug 10. 1877, \$271 to the inhabitants of N. F. for bait

I know that this trade is of great advantage to the inhabitants of Newfoundland, as our vessels leave from one to two thousand dollars some days, in some of the little Coves of the Coast—the Squid are entirely useless except for the purposes of bait, and the American and French fleet provide the only market—there is about 250 American vessels engaged in the Bank fishery—a portion—say one half—purchase bait at Newfoundland I have never caught any Halibut or Cod within one hundred & fifty miles of the British shores the American Cod & Halibut fishery being entirely a deep-sea or ocean fishery and I knew of no American vessels taking Cod or Halibut within three miles of the shore—there is no American vessel engaged in the Codfishery that carries seines or nets to procure bait

CHARLES H NUTE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS.

August 13th 1877

Then personally appeared the above named Charles H. Nute and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge & belief before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 214.

I, Joseph Oakley, Master of the Schooner Sarah P. Ayer of Gloucester do depose and say that I was born in Nova Scotia, am 29 years of age, have been continuously engaged in the fisheries—the last eight years of which being out of Gloucester & always to the Grand Banks.

I have read the statement of Captain Charles H. Nute of Sch Edward R. Webster, and in all its features and statements it accords with my own experience & is perfectly true—on my last trip to Grand Bank I took my bait at Newfoundland and paid \$209,76 cash for the same—have never caught fish or halibut while in an American vessel within 3 miles of the shore—the American Cod & halibut fishery is entirely a deep-sea or ocean fishery. I consider the bait business of Newfoundland of vastly more profit to the inhabitants than convenience or profit to the Americans and I believe that were it not for this trade of bait & supplies to the American fleet; the inhabitants would suffer great distress & poverty. as their stock in trade would be entirely useless, were it not for our fleet to purchase them,

JOSEPH OAKLEY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER Aug. 13th 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Joseph Oakley and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

No. 215.

I, Mathew McDonald Master of the Sch Clara B. Chapman, and subsequently of the Sch Webster Sanborn was born in Prince Edward Island am twenty six years of age, have been engaged in the fisheries from Gloucester for the past eight years — principally on the Grand Banks, taking Codfish & halibut. I have used for bait principally herring & squid in all cases purchasing the same of the inhabitants of Newfoundland & paying Cash for the same at the rate of \$2. per Bbl. for Herring and 50 Cts per 100 for Squid — the people there being anxious to sell the same to the American fishermen — I have never attempted to catch any bait on the Coast of N. F. — am well acquainted with the manner in which bait is obtained by the American fishermen & I know that all with which I am acquainted buy their bait — paying cash for the same, — have never known of but one case in which the bait was caught — one vessel taking a few Bbls of Squid at Conception Bay, N. F. I have never fished for, Cod or Halibut on the British shores, nor do I know of any American vessel ever taking these fish within the limit of three miles from the shore, the Cod & Halibut fisheries, as prosecuted by the American fishermen, is entirely a deep-sea fishery.

MATHEW McDONALD

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX } SS.

GLOUCESTER Aug 13th 1877.

Then personally appeared the within named Mathew McDonald, Master of Sch. Clara B. Chapman, and made oath that the within statement by him subscribed is true

Before me
(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW
Notary Public

No. 216.

The Examination of Patrick Walsh of St. John's Newfoundland taken before me George Henry Emerson jr Examiner—

This witness being sworn saith—

I am forty three years of age and have been engaged in the Fishery since I was fourteen years old. I am Master of a Newfoundland Steam Bait Skiff, a vessel belonging to the Honorable Ambrose Shea of St John's Newfoundland, and used by him for procuring bait for the Fishermen of Newfoundland.

I never knew the American fishermen use the inshore shore fishery for Cod or other fishing. We have no mackerel on the Coast of this Island. The American fisherman frequent our Harbors for the purpose of procuring bait to prosecute the fishery on the Banks of Newfoundland. They purchase always and do not catch it themselves. The fishermen of Newfoundland benefit by this traffic with the American fishermen in bait and ice. The Newfoundland fishermen can procure plenty of bait when it is impossible to catch fish, which bait the Americans purchase from him at the rate of 40 to 50 cents per hundred. This is of inestimable value to Newfoundlanders as the inshore fishery on this Coast for the past ten years has been very unproductive while there has been a great quantity of bait, which if it were not for the purchase by the American fishermen would be perfectly useless to any one.

his
PATRICK X WALSH.
mark.

Taken before me at Saint Johns Newfoundland this 4th day of June
A D 1877

GEO. H. Y. EMERSON JR

No. 217.

Examination of Captain James Brown of Boston, Mass : at present of Saint John's taken before me George Henry Emerson, Examiner.

This witness being sworn saith :—

I am thirty two years of age and have been engaged in the Bank fishery on the Coast of Newfoundland for the past fifteen years. The American fisherman do not use the inshore fisheries within three miles of the Coast of Newfoundland for either Cod or other fishing, except for taking bait. American fishermen always buy their bait on the coast of Newfoundland from the Newfoundland fishermen. There is no mackerel fishing on the Coast of Newfoundland. There is no boat-fishing by the Americans on the Coast of Newfoundland. I have never known American fishermen land on the Coast of Newfoundland to dry nets, cure fish or for any other purpose. There is no necessity of American Fishermen landing in Newfoundland except for the purpose of purchasing bait, Ice, and fishing stores. American fishermen always purchase bait. They never catch their own bait. The Americans never come prepared, and find it cheaper to purchase bait, than to bring nets and gear from the States, to catch it with, An American fishing vessel would want about fifty barrels of Herring for bait, or about twenty thousand squids. Herring average about forty dollars for fifty barrels of Herring, and about forty cents per Hundred for squids — I think that the traffic between the American fisherman and the Newfoundland fisherman is of

great importance to the Newfoundlander, in putting into circulation among the people of the Western Coast a great deal of money and the facility of obtaining by the Newfoundlander from the Americans provisions at a cheaper rate than can be obtained from the Newfoundland Merchant, whose prices are exceedingly high. The intercourse of American and Newfoundland fisherman is also of great importance in improving the manners and habits of the Newfoundlander especially in the manner of catching fish and in improving generally the status of the Newfoundland fisherman who is at least half a century behind the age even in obtaining and curing fish which is his only means of support. I think the American fishermen leave about sixty thousand dollars a years in Newfoundland and all this money is spent among the fishermen and not among the merchants. This must be of inestimable value to the people of Newfoundland who are a very people and have very little money among them —

JAMES BROWN

Taken before me at Saint Johns aforesaid this 4th day of June A D 1877 —

GEO. H. Y EMERSON JR

Examiner

No. 218.

I. John H. McKinnon a native of Cape Breton N. S. aged 28 years Master of Schooner Rutherford B. Hayes of Gloucester, Mass. on oath deposes and says that in 1875 he was Master of Schooner Mary Low of Gloucester Mass. and was engaged in the Grand Bank Fishing for Cod and Halibut, catching them with Trawls baited mostly with Herring purchased in Hermitage Bay Newfoundland, that I have never caught any bait myself but they the Newfoundlanders have asked my Crew to help them catch the bait, but I did not get it any cheaper on that account. *My* experience has been that no American Vessel has caught their own bait but occasionally as a favor or to get their bait quicker have aided the Newfoundland fishermen in catching it, paying in full for it. American fishermen do not carry Nets or anything to take bait with, except a few Squid jigs—I never took any Codfish or Halibut within three miles of the coast of Newfoundland or British Provinces while I have been in an American Vessel. and do not believe an American Vessel does it, except to get a fresh fish to eat. All their Cod & Halibut Fisheries are deep Sea fisheries. I have purchased Ice in Newfoundland for which nearly double was paid for it more than Ice sold for in Gloucester. All the supplies wanted for Vessel use is a great deal higher in Newfoundland and the Inhabitants are making money from their trade with American Vessels—In selling to American Vessels I consider it is worth much more to *them* than the privilege of buying is, to us, as the markets of the French Islands are open to us. and the bait would seek that Market were the Ports of Newfoundland closed to American Fishermen, and I think it is made a market for their bait now, to considerable extent.

I have been engaged in the Cod & Halibut fisheries for the past five years having been four years Skipper or Master.

JOHN MCKINNON

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS }
COUNTY OF ESSEX } SS

GLOUCESTER Aug. 13th, 1877

Then personally appeared the above named John McKinnon and subscribed and made oath that the foregoing statement is true. Before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW *Notary Public*

No. 219.

I. John Curzon a native of Pictou Nova Scotia. Master of Schooner Mist of Gloucester Massachusetts Aged 35 years on oath depose and say that I have been engaged in the fishing business, nine years, Cod & Halibut Fishing wholly, with exception of one trip after Mackerel, have fished on Grand Bank. and Georges Banks. In fishing on the Grand Banks I have bought my bait, paying cash have procured them in Fortune, Tar and Conception Bays in Newfoundland, paying from 20c to 75c per hundred for Squid and from \$25 to \$30 for baiting our Schooner for the voyage. I have purchased Ship Stores and Ice in Newfoundland always paying more than I could have bought for at home, they asking the highest prices for everything—I have never carried Nets or anything to catch bait and know of no vessel (American) that has. the trade with American vessels has been for three or four years past and they make money out of it I do not know what they would do without us for their Squid would be worthless without our trade, and their Herring would be almost worthless to them except what few they could sell at the French Islands. If prevented from purchasing bait and supplies in Newfoundland, American fishermen could go to the French Islands and get plenty, and their other supplies much cheaper.

That I consider that their chance to sell to American Fishermen is worth a great deal more to them than our privilege to go there and purchase, for dozens are running after you to sell bait and if they think you want supplies and ice the Merchants or Traders solicit your trade.

JOHN CURZON

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER Aug 13th 1877

Then personally appeared John Curzon, above named, and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true. before me

DAVID W. LOW

(Seal.)

Notary Public

No. 220.

I, John G. Dennis of Gloucester in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn do depose and say that I am forty years old, and have been engaged in the fishing business both as fishermen and in sending out vessels, for the last fifteen years I am now a member of the firm of Dennis and Ayer. I send on an average two vessels each winter to Fortune Bay Newfoundland for herring—Herring are purchased from the inhabitants of Newfoundland and are never caught by the Americans—The vessels that go to Newfoundland for herring are not prepared for fishing they purchase herring paying from one to two dollars per barrel partly in money and partly in goods, provisions, &c these vessels all make entry at the Custom-House and pay duties upon the goods with which they purchase the herring—American vessels leave from (\$25000,00) twenty-five thousand dollars to (\$40,000 00) forty thousand dollars Each year in the region of Fortune Bay—This is the only business the inhabitants of Fortune Bay have during the winter, and the only market for their herring and without it they would not be able to live—American vessels have never been ordered off or forbidden to purchase herring on the coast of Newfoundland—

I am also engaged in the cod fishery on the Grand Banks and my ves-

sels purchase bait on the Coast of Newfoundland herring is the bait principally used, my vessels bring some bait from the United States but when they are out of it they call at the various bays of Newfoundland and purchase it there, No objection has ever been made to purchasing bait and supplies on the Newfoundland coast, the inhabitants are glad enough to sell it to us as it is a very profitable trade for them—The Newfoundland traders in bait and ice advertise in the Gloucester newspapers and send circulars to the various fishing firms asking their custom—Bait is also purchased at the French Islands from the Newfoundland jacks which come there to sell the herring bait to the French and American fishing vessels—I consider the herring fishery of Newfoundland of no value to Americans, they never catch but only purchase the fish and pay the full value for them—American vessels never fish for cod or any other fish within three miles of the Coast of Newfoundland.

JOHN G. DENNIS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER July 28th 1877

Then personally appeared the above named John G. Dennis and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed were true to the best of his knowledge and belief

before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 221.

I Andrew Leighton of Gloucester in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts being duly sworn do depose and say that I am fifty-four years old, and have been engaged in the fishing business both as fishermen and dealer for over thirty years, I have been engaged in the Newfoundland herring trade for eighteen years, during the winter principally at Fortune Bay, The Method of doing business is to send vessels from here to purchase cargoes of frozen herring from the fishermen on that coast, which are then carried to the United States and there sold. I have never caught any herring on the coast of Newfoundland and I have never known of any American vessel doing so. as it is much cheaper to buy them from the inhabitants who catch them in small boats, than to catch them ourselves—No objection has ever been made by the Government of Newfoundland to our purchasing herring there to my knowledge. the inhabitants are glad enough to sell to us as they depend for their living entirely during the winter upon the trade with the American vessels—

ANDREW LEIGHTON

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER July 1877

Then personally appeared the abovenamed Andrew Leighton and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 222.

I Robert J. Reeves of Gloucester in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn do depose and say that I am thirty-nine years of age and am the Captain of the three-masted schooner William I Shepard of 475 tons burden, that I have been engaged in the Newfoundland herring trade for about eight years and during that time I made a voyage each winter to the coast of Newfoundland usually to Fortune Bay for the purpose of purchasing cargoes of frozen herrings of the inhabitants, that I have never fished for herring on that coast and have never known of any American vessels catching herring there. the usual course is for the American vessels to purchase their cargo from the fishermen paying them in gold from one to two dollars per barrel for the herring fresh, sometimes they pay for them in provisions but at the same rate as in money—Our vessels are not furnished for fishing and do not carry nets, they enter regularly at the Custom-house and when they carry goods with which to purchase the herring, they pay the duties—It is much cheaper for us to purchase the herring from the Newfoundland fishermen than to catch them ourselves, the inhabitants of the country around Fortune Bay depend during the winter for their living entirely upon the trade with American vessels and without it they would soon starve; the American vessels pay on an average each from six hundred to one thousand dollars for the herring—No objection has ever been made to the Americans purchasing herring, to my knowledge, the inhabitants are glad to have Americans come as it is the only market they have for their herring during the winter—

ROBERT J. REEVES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS

GLOUCESTER July 1877

Then personally appeared the abovenamed Robert J. Reeves and made oath that—all the foregoing facts were true to the best of his knowledge and belief before me—

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 223.

GLOUCESTER, Aug 18, 1877

I Wm H Kirby was born in Reddington, Berkshire, England, and am 37 years of age and on oath do depose and say that I have been engaged in the American Fisheries 19 years I have been Master of the Schooners Eliza K Parker, B D Haskins Amos, Cutter, Ocean Lodge Right Bower, Chas A Ropes Cornelius Stokem, of Gloucester & Salem State of Mass.

I have been engaged in the Bank Fisheries for Cod & Halibut & Gulf of St Lawrence for Mackerel & Newfoundland and Magdelen Island Herring fishery. The American Cod & Halibut fishery is entirely a deep sea fishery I always carried Clams and Porgie slivers and obtained the rest of my bait on the Banks viz (fishes peas & squid) I never took any Codfish or Halibut within three miles of the shore and none within 30 miles of land I went fifteen seasons in the Gulf of St Lawrence, occupying about 5 months each season My highest stock from the Gulf of St Lawrence was \$ 6,400,00 and my lowest \$2300,00

An American vessel manned and equipped for a season of five months

in the Gulf of St Lawrence must stock at least \$6,000,00 to pay her bills. Very few vessels have paid their bills for the last 4 years in the Bay I carried no Seine but depended upon the hook & line I did not catch one fifth of my Mackerel within three miles. A purse seine as now used cannot well be used inshore I dressed most of my Mackerel outside, whenever we dress inshore the fishing boats from shore come off for the Mackerel Gills and offal to bait their trawls with. Most of the shore boats use trawls for fish. The Nova Scotia North Cape fishermen, that is Schooners, get all the Mackerel offal they can to bait their trawls. This bait is the best for Cod fishing Mackerel fit for the Market are worth too much to use for bait for Cod fish to any extent

I have been Ten Winters to Newfoundland for Herring. I carried nets only one voyage and that was last winter. I set my nets two nights the second night they were stolen. I had ever before bought my Herring from the Newfoundland fishermen, paying at the rate of one Dollar per Bbl in gold When I first went to Newfoundland the Inhabitants were very poor hardly owning a boat or net. They had no market for their Herring years ago except the Nova Scotia fishermen but upon the advent of the Americans fleet the prices rose from 3 shillings up to Ten Shilling per Barrel. The Merchants on the west side of Newfoundland send vessels to Fortune Bay for Herring and once had them at their own price. Now the American fishermen having raised the price paid to the poor operative the British traders cannot have them at their own price and pay for them in trade consequently they the traders are jealous of the Americans and would do anything to keep them away. The Americans have absolutely raised up this population of poor operative fishermen from poverty and made them independent in their business and of the grinding and debasing influence of the trading capitalist, if the fishermen were in the hands of the traders they would keep them at the Codfishery entirely and make them dependent on the traders, but now the fishermen can supply the American fleet with Herring and be independent and prosperous, there has long been this state of feeling there and it has culminated in various acts of violence Many of the operative fishermen now have good houses and own boats and nets where formerly they had neither, except a log hut, and all this is derived from the trade with Americans.

The Magdalen Island fishery for Herring is carried on in the following manner. The American vessels do not go prepared to catch Herring. They go from Gloucester with 3 or 4 men and at Canso hire a Seine & Boats and men enough to handle it They pay for use of Seine 100 Dollars for a boat & man 40 Dollars for the trip generally hire 3 boats to each vessel and about six men The English fishermen haul the seine on shore with the Herring and the Americans, hire the herring brought of in boats by the people of the Island and in case of packing hire women to dress and pack, The whole operative portion of the voyage being done by the inhabitants and they being paid for it. It is the general and universal custom to pack them on the vessel as there are no wharves and it would be very unhandy to do the work on the beach I never knew of Americans being denied the right to seine Herring at the Magdalen Islands I have never paid any Port Charges at these Islands or Customs duties

At Fortune Bay Newfoundland they make us pay duties on Barrels and salt whether they are landed or not.

W. H. KIRBY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

COUNTY OF ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER Aug. 18th 1877

Then personally appeared the above named William H. Kirby and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true, to the best of his knowledge and belief before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 224.

GLOUCESTER Aug 17, 1877

I, Byron Hines do depose and say that I was born in Pubnico, N, S, and am 40 years of age am now mastee of the Sch Grand Mastee of Pubnico N, S, am now engaged in fishing on the Grand Banks and delivering my fish at Gloucester Mass, have been engaged continuously in the Bank fishery mostly, for the past 25 years am thoroughly acquainted with the manner of obtaining bait at Newfoundland & Nova Scotia my experience has been that all vessels American English and French have bought their bait and paid for it in Cash—a large part of the fishing business of New Foundland is engaged in supplying this bait and is very profitable to those engaged in it, more so than any other fishery pursued by them—the American fleet have not taken bait only within the last three years at Newfoundland—I have never caught any bait there neither have I ever known any American vessel to catch bait at Newfoundland—there are 50 vessels of from 25 to 40 tons each constantly carrying bait from Newfoundland to the French Islands (St Perre & Mequelon) and the American fleet buy their bait largely at these places We pay more for the bait, as such, than in other form in which it can be used, and other supplies in the same ratio. I have paid \$3, per Bbl for sound Herring this spring at N, F, if we could not obtain this bait we could supply its place with porgies & clam, & I think to our advantage—the Newfoundland vessels board American vessels miles from the Coast for the purpose of obtaining their trade and whole communities have been built up and are in a prosperous condition wholly by this trade,—in going in to these places for bait the vessel will often lose a fortnights time—with my experience as a Bank fisherman I should say that it would be better to go without this bait, if *all* would do so—the American Cod and hœlibut fishery is wholly a Bank or deep sea fishery and not a shore fishery in any sense

BYRON HINES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER Aug 17th 1877

Then personally appeared the above named Byron Hines and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true, to the best of his knowledge & belief—before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 225.

I William Greenleaf, Master of the Sch Chester R. Lawrence of Gloucester, & formerly master of Sch'r's John S Presson, F. W. Homans, Polar Wave, & Phœnix of said Gloucester, born at Westport, Me. am 29 years of age do depose & say that I have been engaged in the fisheries for the

past 18 years & master for the past 10 years. I have been continuously in the Grand Bank fishery for the last eight years. I have read the statement of Capt C. H. Nute* of Sch Edward R. Webster and according to my experience is true in every respect—the last voyage I made to Newfoundland I paid \$286, for bait the practice of buying bait at Newfoundland has only existed about three years—the inhabitants affording every facility and anxious for the trade,—& have never known any American vessel to catch Cod or Halibut within three miles of the shore.

WILLIAM GREENLEAF

(* See page 221.)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER Aug 13th 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named William Greenleaf and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 226.

GLOUCESTER Aug 18 1877

I Harvey C Knowlton, born in Gloucester am 47 years of age and have been engaged in the fisheries, 25 years I was engaged in buying Herring at Newfoundland in the four successive winters of 1865, 1866, 1867, and 1868.

These Herring were frozen for bait and for the fresh fish trade of New York and other American cities, I paid from one Dollar to One Dollar & seventy five cents per Barrel in gold, I bought the herring of the fishermen direct who were very glad to sell them. I have seen over 50 American vessels at one time taking Herring at Fortune Bay averaging \$1200,00 each for the Herring bought When I first visited Fortune Bay the people were very poor this was the first commencement of the Herring trade by the Americans most of them living in log huts and subsisting on Herring and some potatoes. The prices of Herring has been increased largely by the American trade and at the rates now asked there can be no money made by buying them for the American market. The American demand for Herring can be supplied from the Eastern shores of Maine and the Bay of Fundy the voyage is not so dangerous and can be made more profitable. At the present time our winter & spring fleet is largely supplied with Herring from Maine it being brought fresh by rail direct and at about the same cost. The American fleet is not dependent on Newfoundland for bait but use it as a convenience which they vastly overpay in the price paid for Herring at the present time Last Winter the Herring from Maine and Grand Menan completely glutted our Market and large quantities were thrown overboard in the Harbor of Gloucester, being spoilt for want of customers,

HARVEY KNOWLTON JR

MASS }
ESSEX S. S. }

Personally appeared said Knowlton, and made oath to the truth of the above Statement.

Before me

AARON PARSONS

Justice of the Peace.

No. 227.

GLOUCESTER Aug 17, 1877.

I Dennis C Murphy was born at St Johns Newfoundland am 39 years of age and on oath do depose and say that I have been engaged in the fisheries 10 years from Gloucester on the Grand Banks and St pierre Bank I am thoroughly acquainted with the fisheries of Newfoundland. The universal practice of the American Fishermen is to buy bait of the Inhabitants and pay cash for it I have paid as low as one Dollar and as high as three Dollars in gold per Barrel for Herring bait at Newfoundland and from eighty cents to two Dollars per Hundred for Squid. It is only about 3 years since we have bought bait at Newfoundland I could buy bait at St peirres. I was the first Captain that bought bait at Conception Bay when I was in the Carrie T Dagle The Inhabitants of Newfoundland asked Ten Dollars a Ton for Ice and I would not pay it and went up to 47° north and took some from an Iceberg. The Customs authorities make us pay Water taxes, heavy pilotage, all the supplies are charged at the highest rates. This trade with the Americans has made whole communities prosperous there is no other market for this bait except the fishing vessels, and Herring and Squid are so plenty that they are washed a shore on the beaches, there is a jealousy of the American fishermen because they are more successfull than their people I have never caught any fish within three miles of the British shores. The American Cod and Halibut fisheries are exclusively a deep sea fishery within no national jurisdiction. I never knew of any American vessel selling fish at Newfoundland the small Codfish are just as good to strip up as the large, I never fished for bait on the British coast and I know that every American Vessel that takes bait at Newfoundland buys and pays for it in cash If we did not take bait at Newfoundland we could use Porgie and clams, taking them from the United States and at no greater cost, I have been Master of the Schooners, James Bliss, Harvey C Mackey Lizzie A Tarr, Frank A Williams Wachusett, Lizzie K Clark, Carrie T Dagle, Centennial, all are engaged in the bank fisheries. I have stocked as high as \$17,000,00 a year in this business and as low a \$9,000,00 a year.

D C MURPHY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ESSEX SS.

AUGUST 18th 1877

Then personally appeared the above named Dennis C. Murphy and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true, to the best of his knowledge and belief. before me

(Seal.)

DAVID W. LOW

Notary Public

No. 228.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

DISTRICT AND COUNTY OF GASPÉ

GASPÉ BASIN

August 1st 1877

I, the undersigned, John S. Ascab,—of Gaspé Bay,—North—Master of the schooner “Seaflower” of Gaspé Basin,—do hereby solemnly declare as follows viz—

That for thirty five years I have been engaged in the Whale—Cod—

and Mackerel fisheries—of the waters of the Gulf of St Lawrence and the Coast of Labrador, in charge of a fishing schooner,—Whaling in the Straits of Belle Isle and to the Northwards—Codfishing in the gulf and on the coast of Labrador—And taking Mackerel in the Bay de Chaleur—In the years 1850 to 1856—I fished in company with American fishermen—and often had the use of their Seines to draw my bait—without charge—willingly granted—and moreover always kindly assisted when required—and I know personally of valuable services rendered freely by them to a number of our Gaspé fishermen—I do not hesitate to say that I believe candidly—speaking—and unprejudiced Gaspé fishermen, firmly believe that the greater their intercourse—and dealings with American fishermen in Canadian waters—the greater they profit by the intercourse: which is the experience of former years, for, Comparatively, but few American fishermen have been seen in these waters for the last ten years—I have not seen Americans curing fish or drying nets on the shores of the Gulf waters.—Mackerel fishing—was their chief fishery—but for the last ten years—this fish has been disappearing;—and to such an extent—that *now* I would consider—it, undoubtedly—a very risky enterprise to fit out a schooner, even from here,—to engage in that branch of the fisheries.

If Canadian fishermen had the means—or were independent—they could take their fish and oil to markets in the United States and make greater profits than American fishermen in their own ports.—That is obvious. Our fishing and coasting schooners are about—from forty to seventy-five tons burthen;—the larger size costing about four thousand dollars:—wages to men are \$16. @ \$20 per month—and provisions are much lower in price than in the United States.—It seems as if enterprise—was wanting, that more fish is not taken to the United States by Canadians—while it is exempt from duty.

JOHN S ASCAH

Declared and Subscribed to before me, this first day of August 1877,
at Gaspé Basin
(Seal.)

GEO: H. HOLT
U. S. Consul

No. 229.

PORT OF GASPÉ
COUNTY AND DISTRICT OF GASPÉ
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

I—Benjamin Asselin, Master of the British schooner “Speedy,” of Gaspé, do hereby solemnly declare, that I have been connected with the fishery business of the Gulf of St Laurence for about twenty four years and that for the greater period of that time—the transportation of fish has been my chief employment;—between the fishery stations and the shipping ports;—that my vocation has afforded me an experience of the fisheries in the gulf, which is not excelled—if equalled—by others;—that from my own personal knowledge, I am aware that the mackerel fishery has been declining for several years past and I consider that it has now become so reduced and precarious as to offer no encouragement for the pursuit of that enterprise in these waters.

My occupation brings me annually,—during the fishing season,—in the close vicinity of many of the principal fishery stations in the Gulf—and I am enabled to say that American fishermen have not been accustomed to land on the shores to dry nets, cure fish &c—as a practice—so far as I have been able to observe;—in accordance with the privilege granted to them by the Treaty of Washington of 1871.—

I am positive that the inhabitants of the coasts have derived much benefit from the visits and intercourse of American fishermen formerly—by the improvement in their trade—by selling supplies and bait.

I further declare that I have given this subject much reflection and deem it right to freely express my belief as herein noted. The words “twenty-four years” added on the margin before signing

Gaspé June 18th 1877

BENJAMIN ASSELIN

Declared and subscribed to, this eighteenth day of June 1877. before me at Gaspé
(Seal.)

GEO: H. HOLT

U. S. Consul

No. 230.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

DISTRICT OF GASPÉ

DOUGLASTOWN August 6th 1877.

I, the undersigned,—Luke M'Auley of Douglastown—in the Bay of Gaspé do hereby solemnly declare as follows. viz—

That I have been fishing in and about the Bay of Gaspé for about forty years—without intermission—during the fishing seasons—taking principally codfish and mackerel—That from the year 1866—until the present time, the Mackerel fishery has been very poor—I have had intercourse with a great many American fishermen during my life time,—in the Bay of Gaspé—previous to the year 1866.—and very frequently have sold them supplies—and often have received valuable assistance from them on the fishing grounds, and I know of many of my neighbors who have also received benefits—without charge, at their hands—And my firm opinion is that they are of far more benefit to our fishermen—in these waters—than detrimental to our successful pursuit of the fisheries—In fact they were always ready and willing to render assistance to us fishermen when we needed—and I have heard many of my neighbors express themselves to this effect—

I have never seen American fishermen cure fish or dry their nets on shore—

My experience with American fishermen has been such that I would be pleased to see them at all times in our waters—Many years and many times they have been to my house and spent hours with my family—and I have never seen them misbehave themselves.

Our vessels cost so much less than American vessels—and sailing them at so much less expense—there is no reason why Canadian fishermen could not sell fish and oil at a greater profit in the markets of the United States than American fishermen in their own ports—

There is no fishermen, now here, who has fished in the Bay of Gaspé—longer than I have—or as long.

LUKE MCAULEY

Subscribed and declared before me this sixth day of August 1877 at Douglastown

GEO: H HOLT

U. S. Consul

(Seal.)

No. 231.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

DISTRICT AND COUNTY OF GASPÉ

GASPÉ BASIN July 9th 1877

I, the undersigned,—John Howell—of Sandy Beach—Gaspé,—Master—(and part owner) of the Schooner “Undaunted”—of the Port of

Gaspé; do—hereby declare solemnly that—I am now about forty-eight years of age—that since the age of eleven years, I have been constantly engaged in the business of the fisheries,—both in fishing and transporting fish.—in the Gulf of St Lawrence along the North shore from Natashquan to the Moisie river,—and off the North side of Anticosti,—taking codfish—only.—excepting Halibut when caught on the lines.—(but we do not fish for the latter purposely.—) We do not catch one half of the quantity of fish we caught about eighteen years ago.—on an average—The fisheries have evidently declined for a number of years past—from what cause—it is impossible to say—

Mackerel fish are disappearing from their former usual haunts.—About eleven years ago—on the North side of Anticosti—we seined in our boats—about two hundred barrels in one fishing season—but since that time the Mackerel have appeared there but once in numbers—and we have had no other opportunity to make a haul of them—as they clear right away again—immediately after showing themselves—and we cannot tell where they go to.—American fishing vessels used to be seen by us in large numbers about fifteen years ago—but since that time they are only rarely seen—in our fishing waters—excepting near the Magdalen Islands,—& Prince Edward Island. In my experience of about thirty seven years *on the water*—and coast, I cannot remember to have seen American fishermen curing fish or drying nets on shore,—with the exception of one summer at Grande Grave, Gaspé Bay,—many years ago. I consider that it is a great advantage to the people of the shores—for American fishermen to buy bait,—supplies—&c from them—for they profit by the transactions—and get money—which they would not otherwise get.—In the days when the Mackerel fishing was good—the people did well—for Americans spent a good deal of money on the coast. For the last twelve or fourteen years I have been fishing regularly off the coast of Anticosti,—during the fishing seasons, with my own vessel and crew, and am intimately acquainted with the fisheries around that island—my opinion is that Mackerel will never appear again at Anticosti as in former years—they are too long gone now—

I believe that from the less cost of building,—equipping, and manning our fishing vessels, and being upon the spot—that we could take our fish *into* American ports—and undersell American fishermen in their own markets—if we possessed the energy to make the attempt—

I declare solemnly to my belief in the truth of the foregoing statement which I have made with deliberation.

JOHN HOWELL

Declared and subscribed to before me, this ninth day of July 1877, at Gaspé Basin:

(Seal.)

GEO: H HOLT—

U. S. Consul

No. 232.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

GASPÉ BASIN June 23rd. 1877

I.—William Howell—of Sandy Beach—Gaspé Bay,—do hereby solemnly declare—that my occupation is that of a fisherman—that. I have fished in the bay of Gaspé;—off Island of Anticosti, and Straits of Labrador,—for Mackerel—Codfish and Whales—Herring &c—for the past twenty six years—on the best fishing grounds of the Gulf of St Lawrence and adjacent waters.—In former years—say from 1854—to 1865—I have been accustomed to take during the fishing season—from fifteen

to thirty barrels of Mackerel per boat with two men :—that previous to that time the catch was about one third larger—but since the year 1865 the Mackerel fishery has been declining so that I have not been able to catch more than from one to five barrels per boat—in the fishing seasons—in the bay of Gaspé—which in former years was considered the best fishing bay in northern waters—My catch for the last two years was one half barrel of mackerel each year—I live on the shore of the fishing ground and pay particular attention to the movements of mackerel especially,—I believe the fish come in about two thirds less than formerly to the bay—but only to spawn—they won't bite and go out again—& I am well aware that they do spawn in our bay,—When we can catch any—it is only in stormy weather—Up to the year 1855. I have seen as many as Sixty five sail of American fishing vessels—in the bay of Gaspé—filling rapidly with Mackerel—at the same time.—Since then—the number of American vessels fishing in the bay has been annually decreasing—For the last few years—they have rarely appeared—Last year two American fishing vessels came in but did not succeed in finding fish—I have conversed with my neighbors—who are also fishermen, frequently, and they agree with me in the opinion that the American fishermen in our waters have been of no detriment to our fisheries—but on the contrary have been beneficial to us by their intercourse in purchasing bait and supplies—besides it is a known fact that we have caught more Mackerel when they have been in our proximity—Unfortunately for us—since they have acquired the right by the Treaty to the inshore fisheries—we have seen less of them than before—

The honest and candid belief and expression of the fishermen of the coast is that the American fishermen have done no damage to the Canadian fisheries—

The Fishery of the Mackerel in the Province of Quebec is only pursued by catching by boats—and nets—No vessels fitted out for this fishery—Canadian fishermen—in the Gulf do not fish for Halibut—but occasionally they are taken on the Cod lines—

My experience in the fisheries has been—as I have observed—of many years—and there are but few men on the Coast who do not know me as a fisherman—

I Subscribe to this with a full knowledge of its Contents—

WILLIAM HOWELL

Declared and subscribed to before me this twenty third day of June 1877, at Gaspé Basin
(Seal.)

GEO: H HOLT
U. S. Consul

No. 233.

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

DISTRICT AND COUNTY OF GASPÉ—

GASPÉ BASIN July 28th 1877

I—the Undersigned, Charles Stewart—of New Carlisle—Gaspé—Now—Master of the Schooner “IP. Palmer” of Gaspé—do hereby solemnly declare—as follows—I am about fifty-seven years of age,—for about thirty years I have been in command of a vessel employed in the business of the fisheries of the Gulf of St Lawrence—and have had ample opportunities to observe the yield of the various fisheries along the Coasts and shoals of the Gulf for many years past.—It is many years since I have seen American fishermen—fishing for Cod fish near the shore and in all my experience on the waters of the Gulf I have never

observed them (American fishermen) Curing fish, or drying their nets on shore—I have seen them buying bait and Supplies from the residents of the Coasts—in former years;—and know of no Case—where, in these dealings they have given dissatisfaction—but on the contrary—I believe that their presence in the vicinity of the fishing people has been of advantage to the latter—and to be desirable—Since the Mackerel have disappeared from their usual haunts, within a few years past, American fishermen have been rarely seen in the bay of Gaspé—formerly one of the finest fishing grounds for Mackerel—

It is a well known fact that Canadians can build vessels cheaper and sail them at a lower cost, than Americans—and the fish being at their very doors—as it were—it is plain that Canadian fishermen should be able to carry their fish to American ports.—and make better sales as to profit—the duty being off,—than American fishermen who have to come so far from their own ports—

CHARLES STEWART

Declared and Subscribed to before me this twenty eighth day of July 1877

GEO: H HOLT

(Seal.)

U. S. Consul

No. 234.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 21, 1877.

I, Christopher C. Poole, Master of the American schooner *John Wesley*, do on oath depose and say, that I was born in Rockport, Mass.; have been engaged in the fisheries for over 30 years. I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling 30 seasons. My highest stock there was 3,500 dollars for a season. Last year was my poorest season, stocking only 200 dollars. I bought the *John Wesley* in 1866; during that time she has been six years mackereling, and five years coasting. Previous to this she was owned at Cape Cod. She is 42 tons new measurement, will carry 300 barrels. I always fished at the Magdalen Islands, which is the principal American fishing ground. I have taken a good many mackerel on Banks Orphan and Bradley, and in my experience, I have never taken one barrel of mackerel in ten within the three-mile limit. I have just arrived from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and brought home 190 barrels that I bought from the English boat fishermen. I went prepared to fish with my own vessel, but finding the prospect so poor, I bought these mackerel and came home.

I bought my mackerel for two cents apiece out of the boats, averaging 300 to a barrel.

I cannot save myself a dollar by this trip. I left the Gulf the 5th of September. I saw many American vessels at Port Hood and at Canso, and none of them had done anything. Some vessels left the Bay without having been able to take a single mackerel. This is about as poor a season as I have ever witnessed in the Bay, and with few exceptions, every vessel there will fail to pay their expenses.

CHRISTOPHER C. POOLE.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

ESSEX SS., GLOUCESTER, Sept. 21st, 1877.

Subscribed and sworn to by above named Christopher C. Poole, before me,

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 235.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 17, 1877.

I, Russell D. Terry, born in Nova Scotia, master of the American schooner *Addie R. Terry*, do on oath depose and say that I have just returned from a trip to the coast of Maine for mackerel, having been absent four weeks.

I landed 20 bbls. No. 1 Mackerel,

" " 130 " " 2 "

" " 62 " " 3 "

worth and sold for 2,376 dollars. The average catch during the time I was there was 100 bbls. to each vessel.

I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence 17 seasons. My best stock there for a full season was 8000 dollars. My poorest stock for a full season was 500 dollars.

I caught the most of my mackerel around the Magdalens and some at P. E. Island. I think including the years previous to 1870 that one fifth of the mackerel I took were taken within the three mile limit including the Magdalen Islands.

I consider that to be a fair estimate for the other American vessels that were in company with me.

CAPT. RUSSELL D. TERRY.

ESSEX, S. S.,
GLOUCESTER, Sept. 17, 1877. }

Personally appeared the above named Russell D. Terry who subscribed and made oath that the above statement is true, before me.

ADDISON CARTER,
Justice of the Peace and Spec. Dep. Collector of Customs for
DISTRICT OF GLOUCESTER.

No. 236.

I, William Herrick, of Swan's Island, Me., on oath, depose and say, that I am master of Schooner *Cyanne*, of Salem, Mass. That I have just arrived from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, from a mackerel voyage. The said schooner went through the Strait of Canso the 11th day of July, 1877. Between Cape George and Port Hood, we caught our first fish, 25 wash barrels, from 8 to 10 miles from shore. On the North side of East Point, of Prince Edward Island, we took 200 wash barrels, caught in four schools, the one nearest the land was over 3 miles off, the others, 6 or more miles off. This was the 17th or 18th of July. Two days afterwards, at same place, took 90 wash barrels, 60 of them from one school, over 4 miles from land, and 30 in another school within 3 miles from the land or shore. Took 15 wash barrels off Kildare, within three miles from shore, (about two and-a-half miles). The balance of my trip, I picked up on the hook, scattering from 4 to 10 miles from shore, cruising in Bay of Chaleur, down along the Island, and to Port Hood. Found no mackerel in Bay Chaleur, and very few anywhere. Spoke 25 sail of vessels in my cruise, who all reported mackerel very scarce. Finding nothing to stop for, and no prospect ahead of finding mackerel, I left for home, and arrived at Gloucester, Aug. 30th, 1877, with 320 sea barrels, and packed out about 300.

That I chartered my vessel for \$225 per month, of Charles E. Fabens, of Salem, finding my own Seines and Gear.

Charter of Vessel, 2 months.....	\$450
Seines, (2), Boat's Value, \$2,000, 2 months use.	300
Outfits of Provisions, Lines, &c.....	400
16 hands @ \$30 per Month, 2 Months.....	960
Captain's Wages, 2 Months	150
Insurance of Seines and Seine Boats.....	30
Salt.....	140
	<hr/>
	\$2,430

RECEIPTS.

10 bbls. No. 1's @ \$ 16,	\$160
170 " No. 2's @ 10 $\frac{1}{2}$,	1,785
120 " No. 3's @ 7 $\frac{1}{2}$,	900
	<hr/>
	\$2,845

STOCK EXPENSE.

25 bbls. Pogie bait,	\$162.50	
Packing 300 bbls., and Barrels, &c.,	525,00	687,50
	<hr/>	
	\$2,157.50	2,157.50

Actual loss by the voyage, \$ 272.50

That this trip is the *best* one brought home from the Gulf of St Lawrence this season. That my men were hired on shares, but in the above estimate of the voyage, I have charged as wages what is paid to the crew of the schooner *John Gerard*, of Newburyport, whose whole crew are on wages, instead of shares.

I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence ten seasons, five of which as master. Have fished in all parts of the Gulf, and consider myself well posted in its fisheries. I was master of schr *Amos Cutter* the last year previous to this. That I was in the Gulf four years ago. We took 40 barrels, not one fish of which, do I believe, we caught within the three mile limit from shore. Was gone *two and a-half months*, and tried everywhere that mackerel are likely to be found in the Fall of the year without success. Six years ago, I was in the Gulf, in the schr *Wm. J. Dale*, and took 260 barrels in a two months voyage, all of which, with exception of 20 barrels, were caught at the Magdalene Islands—the 20 barrels were caught 20 miles from shore of Cape Miscou. This trip sold for six dollars and fifty cents per barrel, and was a losing voyage. During the five seasons in the Gulf as master, I have brought home 1300 barrels of mackerel, not over 250 barrels were caught within three miles from the shore.

In all my experience, during the ten years I have fished in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the vessel I was in myself, nor any vessel I ever saw or heard of, ever interfered with the boat fishermen in any manner, the best of feeling always existing between the American and English fishermen. When anchored inshore, they always come aboard, and got a little bait; and I never knew, or heard of a fleet of American fishermen running in among boat fishermen for mackerel, but have seen British boats a great many times run out among the fleet while fishing.

I have trans-shipped mackerel twice, the first time from Canso. The vessel was so long coming (four weeks) that we gained by it, mackerel rising in value. I was then in the *Barbara Fritchie*, and sent home 260 barrels. The second time, from Charlottetown, by steamer, sending home 150 barrels from same schooner, costing \$1.00 per barrel to get them home. In the six weeks following, I only took 40 barrels of mackerel, which was all I did take for that trip, besides what had been sent home, and would have made money not to have trans-shipped any mackerel home, but have taken them home in the schooner.

All the years I have been to the Gulf, \$100, in gold, each year, on an average, was paid to British traders for goods, for which we paid more than we could have procured them for at home.

The last three years I have been fishing off our American shores in schrs *Glad Tidings* and *Rebecca M. Atwood*. In the schr. *Glad Tidings* we landed 1750 barrels of mackerel, stocking \$13,600—*net stock*. In the *Atwood*, two years ago, we landed 900 barrels of mackerel, stocking \$10,300, *net*. Last year, in same schooner, (*Rebecca M. Atwood*), we landed 2700 barrels of mackerel, *net stock*, being \$11,000.

That the mackerel being small here, the first of season, and bearing of large quantities of mackerel being in the Bay, I was induced to go there, much to my sorrow and regret now, for I found that I had been deceived by the stories told, and despatches published in the papers, to draw American fishermen to the Gulf of St. Lawrence this year. I feel satisfied, that had I remained on our own shores, I should have done much better. Our shore mackerel are better in quality than Bay.

WILLIAM HERRICK.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 4th, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named William Herrick, and made oath that all his statements above subscribed are true, to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me,

(L. S.)

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 237.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 28, 1877.

I, Thomas H. White, master of the schooner *Hyperion*, of Gloucester, Mass., do on oath depose and say:—

I was born in Margaree, Cape Breton; am 29 years of age; have been engaged in the fisheries for the past 17 years. I have been master of the schooners *John T. Tyler*, *Finance*, and my present vessel, the *Hyperion*.

I have just returned from a trip to the Gulf of St. Lawrence for mackerel. I brought home 225 sea-barrels of mackerel, mostly twos. I commenced to fit my vessel on the 1st of July, and sailed from Gloucester on the 5th; arrived in the Bay on the 12th of July. My first mackerel I took off East Point on the hook, (I had no seine) about 15 wash barrels 2 miles from the shore, and of the remainder of the trip of mackerel we took certainly one-half inside of the three mile limit and the rest outside.

The charter of my vessel is worth for two months.....	\$500. 00
My men's time is worth \$30 per month; 14 men at \$30, 2 months each.....	900. 00
Outfits	600. 00

Insurance	100. 00
41 Bbls. Bait, \$4 per bbl	164. 00
Packing	154. 00
Lines, &c.	25. 00

\$1943. 00

Receipts:

205 packed bbls. at \$11½	\$2300. 00
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Net profit.. \$357. 00

When I first arrived in the Bay I thought the prospect was good for a large catch, when I came away it looked altogether different. There was about 100 sail of American vessels there and those that we spoke would average from 25 to 50 barrels each. I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling four seasons. My highest stock for a whole season was \$4,500. My lowest stock was \$3,000. Any American vessel as they are now fitted must stock \$4,500 for a seasons mackereling in the Gulf to pay their bills.

I have fished part of two seasons off the American coast for mackerel. I made on one trip 52 dollars in 3 weeks. I also made three trips taking two months time and made over 100 dollars. I have been boat fishing from Margaree and it is the general practice to throw offal overboard. I never heard of such a thing as injury to the fish from this source. If this had been an injury there would not be any fish in the Gulf now. The American cod and halibut fishery is a deep sea fishery entirely. From my experience in the mackerel fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence the American vessels do not take more than one-third of their mackerel within three miles of the shore, that is not including the Magdalen Islands. There has been a good deal of trading by American vessels which is an advantage to the people. I am of the opinion that from my knowledge of the people there is a strong prejudice against the American fishermen. I should say this sentiment has been fostered for a purpose. As a general thing heretofore the people on the coast have been very friendly and never before have I heard any complaints by the boat fishermen or traders of the American fishermen. The people were always glad to have them come to trade with them and it has been a great help in many ways to the people living near the shore to have the American fleet down there giving employment to the men and buying of the farmers and traders. Any other ideas I think must be born of prejudice as any one disposed to be fair will say.

I know that the average catch of American vessels for the last 15 years in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is not over 350 barrels each. I have been one trip to Newfoundland for herring. I bought my herring of the people and paid for it mostly in cash. It is of great advantage to the people of Newfoundland to have the Americans buy their herring. They would almost be in a starving condition if it were not for this trade.

THOMAS H. WHITE.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS., GLOUCESTER, August 28th, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Thomas H. White and made oath that all the above statesment by him subscribed are true, before me,

(L. S.)

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 238.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 28, 1877.

I, Charles Lee, Master of the schooner *I. I. Clark*, of Gloucester, on oath do depose and say, that I was born in New York, am 40 years of age, and have been engaged in the fisheries 20 years.

I have just returned from a trip to the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

I commenced to fit my vessel for this trip on the 1st of July, sailed from Gloucester on the 5th of July, arrived in the Bay on the 12th of July. I caught my first mackerel off the east point P E. Island, taking one hundred barrels in the seine. This was outside of the three-mile limit; caught the rest of my trip—130 barrels—on the hook, about 12 to 15 miles from the shore of Prince Edward Island. We set our seine about 20 times to take what mackerel we got in it. The entire time consumed in this trip is just two months. My vessel is nearly new; cost \$9,000. She is 70 tons new measurement, carries 14 men. My two seines and boat cost me \$1,500.

The charter of my vessel is worth \$250 per month	\$500 00
The wear and tear of seines, boats, &c.	200 00
Wages of 14 men two months, at \$30 per month	900 00
Outfits, including provisions, brls. salt etc.	600 00
Insurance	100 00
Packing	173 00
Lines, hooks, etc.	25 00

Total cost of trip \$2,498 00

RECEIPTS.

230 barrels of mackerel, at \$11½ 2,645 00

Net profit \$147 00

With one exception, this is the best trip taken that I know of in the Bay this year. I spoke a number of American vessels when I came out of the Bay, and they would not average 25 brls. each.

I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence 13 seasons mackereling; about ten years as master of the vessel.

During that time it was necessary to stock 5,000 dollars in a season, in the Bay, to pay the bills. I have, as a general thing, done much better than the average of American vessels in the Bay. Most of the time I have owned my vessel. I have also fished for mackerel on the American shore, and I have always done better there than in the Bay; take ten consecutive years, and I have landed double the amount of mackerel from shore mackereling than from Bay mackereling, and the American shore mackerel are of better quality and sell for more money. In all the mackereling I have done in the Bay I have not taken one barrel in ten within three miles of the shore. The boat fishing from the shore is seldom, or ever, interfered with by the schooners, and I never knew of any boat being injured by our vessels. I have always found the people anxious for us to trade with them, and in the trans-shipment of mackerel a large portion used to be in British bottoms, before the steamer run.

I have been to the Magdalens this Spring for herring, in the schooner *Orient*, 94 tons. Took 652 brls. of herring for Boston. We calculated to take 1,400. We bought all our herring from the English seiners. We hired boats at Canso to take the herring from the seine to our ves-

sel; this is the universal custom of American vessels. All the labor and profits of the taking is with the British subjects. There was over 50 sail of American vessels there, and some got no herring at all; and no vessel while I was there got fully loaded. Both the herring and mackerel fisheries are very uncertain.

In the Newfoundland herring fishery I have always bought and paid for the herring in cash. The Newfoundland Customs Officers oblige American vessels to pay duties on barrels in which the herring are packed, although the barrels are never landed or leave the vessels, but are carried down there and brought away without touching the shore. They also charge light dues, averaging 25 dollars to each American vessel; in fact, there are no fees neglected. The American cod and halibut fishery is purely a deep-sea fishery. The few American vessels that go into the Gulf of St. Lawrence for codfish, take them 12 to 15 miles from the shore, or on Banks Bradley or Orphan. The throwing overboard of mackerel cleanings never injured the mackerel or fish. I never heard of such a thing.

CHARLES LEE.

I, John F. Peoples, having been on this trip, this last two months, to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, hereby on oath declare that the statement is true in every particular.

JOHN F. PEEPLES.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 28, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Charles Lee and John F. Peoples, and made oath that all the statements subscribed to by said Lee are true to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Before me,

(L. S.)

DAVID W. LOW.

Notary Public.

No. 239.

I, Joseph McPhee, of Gloucester, in the State of Massachusetts, ship carpenter, on oath, depose and say, that I was born in Prince Edward Island; that in the year 1860 I was with my brother Capt. Daniel McPhee (now deceased) in sch. *Daniel McPhee*, of Gloucester, that said schooner fitted at the firm of Sinclair and Low, that on our first trip to the Gulf of St. Lawrence in the summer of 1860, we took dories, that we tried for mackerel at Seven Island's, found none, got a few off Bartlett's Cove, tried off Mount Louis and Madeline River and went home in September with sixteen or seventeen barrels of mackerel. That Joseph Campbell was not in said schooner the trip above mentioned, nor was he one of the crew the fall trip of said schooner in which we caught most of our trip of 125 bbls. of mackerel off Magdalen Islands, between 10 and 15 miles south east from Entry Island. Some were caught off Malpeque and some off Margaree. That of said catch less than one-tenth of them were caught within three miles from the shore; that we took no dories on our second trip and did not go to the Seven Islands.

JOSEPH MCPHEE.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,
COUNTY OF ESSEX, S. S., CITY OF GLOUCESTER. }

Personally appeared before me, this twenty-first day of September, A. D. 1877, the above-named Joseph McPhee, to me well known, and

made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing statement by him subscribed.

CYRUS STORY,
Notary Public in and for said County.

No. 240.

I, William Parsons, 2nd, of Gloucester, in the State of Massachusetts, on oath depose and say, that I am senior member of the firm of William Parsons, 2nd, & Co., owners and fitters of schooner *Gen'l Burnside*, that said schooner went to the Gulf of St. Lawrence from said firm only two seasons 1864 and 1865; that in 1864 I find in the crew list of said schooner the name of J. McDonald whose share of the trip in said schooner was \$121.60; the vessels share was \$2,242.84; that said vessel was engaged in making her one voyage in 1864, from August 1st to November 10th, and packed out 462 barrels of mackerel.

WM. PARSONS, 2nd.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,
ESSEX, SS., GLOUCESTER, Sept. 21st, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named William Parsons, 2nd, and made oath that the above statement by him subscribed is true, before me,

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 241.

I, Solomon Pool, a resident of Gloucester, in the State of Massachusetts, on oath, depose and say, that I was formerly of the firm of Pool and Cunningham and part owner and fitter of the schooner *Daniel Webster*, that I have examined the books of said firm and find that said schooner in the year 1859 made two trips to the Gulf of St. Lawrence after mackerel, that she was engaged from the last of June till November 23rd; that from her first trip was packed two hundred and fifty-one and one-half barrels (251½) only. Her net stock amounting to \$1,936.72, one half of which was shared among her crew. That from her second trip to the Bay, was packed twenty (20) barrels of mackerel only. Her net stock amounting to \$164.10, one half of which was shared among her crew.

That I have looked for the name of James or Joseph Campbell on my books, and cannot find it neither name appearing on them.

SOLOMON POOL,

Subscribed and sworn to by above named Solomon Pool, this day of September, A. D., 1877, before me.

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 242.

GLOUCESTER, October 10th, 1877.

I, Benjamin Swim of Gloucester, Mass., on oath depose and say, that I was born at Barrington, Nova Scotia, am 27 years of age, and am now Master of schooner *Sarah C. Pyle*, of Gloucester, and have been since April of this year—have been engaged in codfishing during that time, have landed 150,000 lbs. of codfish and about 3,000 lbs. of halibut; and caught them all, both codfish and halibut, on Western Banks.

The nearest to the shore that I have caught fish of any kind this year is at least forty miles.

BENJAMIN SWIM,
Master of schr. *Sarah C. Pyle*.

ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER, Oct. 10, 1877.

Personally appeared the above named Benj. Swim, Master of schr. *Sarah C. Pyle*, who subscribed and made oath that the above statement by him subscribed is true. Before me,

ADDISON CARTER,
(L. S.) Justice of the Peace and Deputy Collector of Customs.

No. 243.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 29, 1877.

I, Charles F. Carter, Master of the schr. *Falcon*, of Gloucester, Mass., do on oath depose and say, that I was born at Steep Creek, in the Strait of Canso, Nova Scotia, am 39 years of age, have been engaged in the fisheries 28 years. I have just returned from a trip from the Gulf of St. Lawrence. I commenced to fit my vessel on the 1st of July, 1877, sailed from Gloucester on the 9th, arrived in the Bay on the 14th. Got 30 barrels on the first day; caught them with a hook in Antigonish Bay. We caught them all of five miles from the shore. Went down to the East Point, P. E. Island; 10 miles from East Point took a small school in the seine; took 20 brls. Afterward, cruised up the Gulf into the Bay of Chaleurs, to Bathurst; never got a mackerel, and never saw one; then run down to the Magdalen Islands; took 75 brls. on the hook, 5 miles from Brine Island. The remainder of my trip, or fare, I took in various places south of P. E. Island. Took about five barrels inshore, not half mile off. I brought home 132 sea barrels, mostly No. 2's.

The whole time employed in this trip is just two months. I carried a seine-boat and two seines.

The Charter of my vessel is worth \$250 per month.....	\$500 00
Crew of 14 Men—wages at \$30 per month.....	700 00
Outfits	600 00
Two Seines and Boat—use and wear.....	200 00
Insurance	100 00
Lines, &c.....	25 00
Total cost	\$2, 125 00
Inspection and Packing 115 barrels.....	86 25

RECEIPTS.

115 packed barrels Mackerel, at \$11.50	\$1, 322 50
Actual loss.....	\$888 75

I have been seven seasons in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling. The highest stock I ever made there in a season was \$4,200.00. My lowest stock is this year (that is so far), and I consider the prospect there hopeless for the rest of the year. I have fished four years from Canso, in the shore boat—fishing, principally for codfish.

I never knew of any interference or injury from American vessels to the English boats. We always, in these boats, dressed our fish going

in, throwing the offal overboard. I never heard of such a thing as injury to the fish, in throwing over fresh offal. In all my experience in American vessels, I never knew of any collisions with the boat fishermen; on the contrary, the best of feeling has ever been manifested, the boat fishermen coming on board the American vessels for bait, and also to grind their bait in our mills. This last trip I gave away more than three barrels of bait to the boat fishermen. I know that there is less than one fourth of the mackerel taken by the American fleet, taken within three miles. Distance on the water is very deceptive, and looking from the shore any one would be liable to be deceived in the distance a vessel was from the shore, especially when the water is smooth. I have often to settle a question among the crew, put over the patent log, and run, and invariably the distance supposed to be three miles would tally over five miles. This will account for much of the mistaken statements of people on shore, as to distance on the water, especially off high lands. I have been mackereling more or less on the American shore for nearly 20 years. I have stocked on one year's mackereling, off the American shore, \$13,600.00, and my lowest stock in any one year was \$7,200.00. I stocked on the American shore mackereling, last year, \$11,000.00.

This year I have seen many of the fish called albigores in the Gulf, in the Bay of Chaleur, and all along the coast. I consider this fish as fatal to the mackerel and menhaden, as wolves would be among sheep. I have seen none of these fish for a number of years before this year, and I am of the opinion, firmly, that the scarcity of mackerel in the Gulf, and on all the Atlantic coasts, is owing to their presence. There is a mutual convenience in the trading of the American fleet in the Gulf and along the shore. There is really a great benefit derived by the inhabitants by this trade, and the absence of the American fleet makes a decay in business that is universally felt. The mackerel fishery at the best is a very uncertain business, and the causes of their being plenty or scarce are beyond the computation of any man.

And there is no such thing as making a safe estimate of value from one year to another, and all calculations based on so-called certainties as to where the mackerel will be this year, or next, are chimerical.

I have been master of the following vessels:—*Golden Eagle, Farragut, Sea Foam, Falcon.*

CHARLES F. CARTER.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 22th, 1877.

COUNTY OF ESSEX ss.

Then personally appeared the above names Charles F. Carter and made oath, that all the above statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief. Before me,

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

(L. S.)

No. 244.

I, Winthrop Thurston, of Rockport, Mass., on oath, depose and say, that I have been accustomed to reside at Grand Manan, N. B., every summer for the past fifteen years, and am personally cognisant with the mode and manner by which American vessels obtain their bait, which is done to great extent; and they uniformly buy their herring for bait

of the inhabitants, paying the cash. Therefore, this custom is of great advantage to the inhabitants, who are very desirous of securing this trade.

WINTHROP THURSTON.

CUSTOM HOUSE, GLOUCESTER, }
Oct. 3, 1877. }

Personally appeared the above named Winthrop Thurston, who made oath, that the above statement subscribed by him is true, before me,

ADDISON CARTER,
Deputy Collector of Customs and Justice of the Peace.

No. 245.

I, James A. Colson, of Gloucester, Mass., on oath, depose and say, that I have been engaged in fishing for the past six years, and for the past 3 years in the Bank fishery. Have been one of the crew of the following vessels, all of Gloucester, which vessels have been into Grand Manan or vicinity for bait:—*Schr. D. D. Geyer, Schr. Schuyler Colfax, Schr. George S. Bouticell, Schr. Hyperion.* Five or six times I have been there, and have usually taken about 50 bbls. of herring at each baiting, paying, therefor, from \$1 to \$2 per barrel. Have never caught any herring, but have uniformly bought them. Have never known any American vessel to catch their herring.

JAMES A. COLSON.

CUSTOM HOUSE, }
GLOUCESTER, Oct. 2, 1877. }

Personally appeared the above named James A. Colson, who subscribed, and made oath, that the above statement is true.

(Seal).

ADDISON CARTER,
Deputy Collector and Justice of the Peace.

No. 246.

Henry G. Coas, of Gloucester, Mass., on oath, depose and say that, was born in Gloucester, am thirty-six years of age, am now master of schr. *John S. McQuin*, of Gloucester, have been master for nine years of the schr. *Charles H. Hildreth*, of said Gloucester, have been in Gulf of St. Lawrence seven years of that time mackereling; 1867 I was in the Bay the whole season, took 200 bbls in all, caught them off Bradley and Bonaventure, caught none of them within 3 miles of the shore; in 1868, was in the Bay, and caught 220 bbls on the first trip, (the second trip we caught only 6 bbls)—I caught the 220 bbls about 8 miles from shore off Muscow, none within 3 miles; in 1869, was in the Bay of St. Lawrence, was there the whole season, and caught 130 bbls mackerel, caught them all over the Gulf, not 10 bbls, however, were caught within three miles of the shore; in 1870, was not in the Bay, went on Georges Bank until August, then went off our own shore mackereling, and caught 375 bbls on coast of Maine, Middle Bank, and off Cape Cod, we caught them in 4 trips—the quality of these mackerel was very good, and we got twice as much for them as for Bay mackerel, and we made a good year's work; in 1871, I was engaged in fishing on Georges Bank the whole year; in 1872, was in the Gulf of St. Lawrence for mackerel, 2 trips, and caught 270 bbls the first trip, and 240

bbls the second trip, caught them all but 30 bbls at Madeline Islands, (both trips), the 30 bbls we caught around the Island of P. E., about half of these 30 bbls. I caught within 3 miles of the shore—we got for these mackerel \$13 per bbl., and were all mostly No. 1s, our shore mackerel were worth then, I recollect, \$20 for ones; in 1874, was in the Gulf of St. Lawrence for mackerel, and caught 260 bbls. the first trip, and 220 bbls on the second trip (sea bbls.), the first trip we caught off P. E. Island, and should judge that we caught half of them within 3 miles of the shore—the second trip we caught 75 bbls. at Madeline Island, and the rest at P. E. Island, 6 or 8 miles from the shore, (none within 3 miles); in 1875, was in the Bay of St. Lawrence, and caught 175 bbls, all of which were caught within 3 miles of shore at Madeline Islands, and was all our season's work; in 1876, was at Georges all the year. All the above years I have been master of the schr *Charles H. Hildreth*—this year, 1877, I have been master of the schr *John S. McQuin*, and have just returned from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and off our own shore, with 107 barrels of mackerel, 3 barrels of which we caught in the Bay, after being there a week, trying for mackerel, off Cape George, P. E. I., etc., caught 104 of the 107 off the coast of Maine, for which we got \$9.50, the 3 barrels caught in the Bay sold for \$10 per bbl. In the winter time, I have been accustomed to go to Grand Manan for herring, have been there for last seven winters, with exception of 1873, when I was at Newfoundland for herring, generally making two trips to Grand Manan. I have always bought my herring, paying the cash at from 50 to 75 cents per 100—last year, for my two trips, I paid \$1,875, for I averaged about \$1000 for each cargo.

All of the herring brought from Grand Manan by the Americans have been bought of the inhabitants, have never known anything to the contrary in my experience. In my trip to Newfoundland, in 1873, I was in the *Membrino Chief*, we bought 2200 barrels of herring, for which we gave \$2200, gold; never knew of any American vessels to get herring at Newfoundland, except by buying them of the inhabitants, they being always very anxious to sell to you, and the inhabitants depend on this traffic with Americans as the principal means of support, and must be of incalculable advantage to them.

HENRY G. COAS.

GLOUCESTER, Oct. 2d, 1877.

Personally appeared the above named Henry G. Coas, who subscribed, and made oath, that the foregoing statement is true, before me,

(Seal).

ADDISON CARTER,

Justice of the Peace, and Special Deputy Collector of Customs.

No. 247.

I, Joseph J. Tupper, of Gloucester, Mass., on oath depose and say, that I was born in Liverpool, N. S., am thirty-seven years of age, have been fishing over twenty years, am now master of schooner *Madawaska Maid*, of Gloucester, and have been master of said vessel for the past nine years; have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling, with exception of the past three years, every season. The past three years have been engaged in fishing on the American shore,—seining for mackerel during the summers, and in the past seven winters have been to New Brunswick for herring. I have now just returned from the Gulf of St. Lawrence on a mackerel voyage,—sailing from Gloucester about the 8th of August, and seined 30 barrels of pogie slivers for bait, on the coast

of Maine,—arrived at Prince Edward Island about the 18th of August, having tried unsuccessfully at Margaree; and not finding mackerel at Prince Edward Island, I went to the Magdalen Islands, and tried hard for one week, with pleasant weather, catching only 10 barrels altogether. Spoke many vessels, both American and British, all telling the same story, “that mackerel was very scarce.” Being dissatisfied with the prospect, I sailed for home, with a number of others equally disgusted. I omitted to state that previous to going to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, I caught thirty-five barrels of shore mackerel off Block Island, which I sold for \$24 per barrel; the 10 barrels of Bay mackerel I sold for \$13 per barrel, which is one dollar more than the regular price, as they gave me one dollar more for them, in order to secure the shore mackerel. I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling thirteen seasons, and averaged 300 barrels each year; and I have no hesitation in saying, that not one-tenth part were caught within three miles from the shore, except those I caught at Magdalen Islands. I did not take a license during the years of exclusion. I never knew or heard of any injury to any shore boats by the American fleet, and this very trip I have given away to these boats bait, which they solicit. I never heard that mackerel cleanings were injurious in any way to the fishery; on the contrary, we often grind it with the other bait. I have known of times when I have been solicited by farmers in St. Mary’s Bay to save my offal for them, and they would send a boat for it,—they wanting it for their farms as a fertilizer, and not on account of any injury to the fishery by being thrown overboard. The reason I did not take out a license during the years of exclusion was because I did not fish within the three-mile limit, and therefore was of no value to me. The cost of my late fishing was as follows:—

Charter of my Vessel, per month, \$250	\$250
13 Men at \$30 per month	390
Captain’s Wages	75
Seine and Boat, use of	100
Outfits, Provisions, Bbls. Salt Bait	350
Insurance, Packing and Inspection	100
	<hr/>
	\$1,265

RECEIPTS.

35 Bbls. Block Island Mackerel, @ \$24	\$840
10 “ taken in Gulf of St. Lawrence @ \$13	130
	<hr/>
	\$970

RECAPITULATION.

Cost of Voyage	\$1,265
Receipts from Voyage	970
	<hr/>
Amount lost by Voyage	\$295

During the winters for the past seven years, I have been to New Brunswick for herring, averaging 2 trips during the winter. I have uniformly bought my herring, paying the cash, and have paid on an average, \$2500 a year, with the exception of last winter, when I made three trips, and paid them \$3600. I usually pay from thirty-five to ninety cents per hundred, taking 500 to the barrel. The herring fishermen there have often told me that they could not realize 12 cents per

100, if it were not for the American vessels coming for them, and they have no other market for them to any extent.

While I was engaged in the Bay fishing, my highest stock was \$4,000 for any one season, while my lowest was \$2,000. On this American shore, the highest stock I ever made was \$10,000 for any one season, and my lowest, including this year, so far, including the 12 barrels caught in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, is \$3500.

I went one trip to Newfoundland for salt herring, in, I think, 1869, and also one trip in 1870, both of which trips we bought our herring, paying one dollar in gold per barrel. The first voyage, we bought 850 barrels, and the second voyage, we paid for 2,000 barrels. I never knew of any American vessels catching herring in nets or seines at Newfoundland or New Brunswick.

JOSEPH J. TUPPER,
Master of Schr. Madawaska Maid.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 3d, 1877

Then personally appeared the above named Joseph J. Tupper, and made oath, that all the above statements by him subscribed, are true, before me,

DAVID W. LOW.
Notary Public.

No. 248.

I, Hanson B. Joyce, of Swan's Island, Maine, on oath, depose and say, that I am Master of Schooner *Alice*, of Portland, have been engaged in the Fisheries eighteen years, and have been master for the last seven years—have been master of the *Alice* the past two years—have been mackereling the whole of this season, first going south on our shore up to the 20th June, and caught 900 barrels, and netted \$4,000.

I went into the Bay of St. Lawrence, arriving at Canso, July 10th, and fished midway between Cape George and Port Hood, and caught in two days 140 bbls. with seine not less than five miles from the shore, and one day fished off the north-end of P. E. Island, and caught 30 bbls. with seine, catching them not less than seven miles from the shore. We then fished between Cape George and P. E. Island, and about the east end of the Island, and caught 37 bbls. altogether, one-half of these 37 with seine, and not any within four miles from the shore. After the prospect not being favorable enough, we started for home and arrived Aug. 14th, having been in the Bay about a month, and getting what packed out, 188 bbls., which sold for \$1,917. We were gone, considering the going and coming, a month and a-half, and the owners of the vessel received three hundred and forty-two dollars, which is less than I would be willing to charter the vessel for that length of time at this season of the year by \$200. After packing out from the Bay, went mackereling on this (the American) shore, and caught up to this time, 365 barrels, which will average at least \$9 per barrel, \$3,285. Having caught, during the whole season, on this shore, 1,265 barrels, and in the Bay 207. (The above are sea-barrels).

I chartered the schr. *G. W. Reed*, in the Winter of 1872, and went into Grand Manan, or rather Point Lepreau, N. B., for herring, and loaded her with 150,000 frozen herring, for which I paid \$375. At this time, there were at least 30 sail of American vessels at this place, and in the vicinity, engaged in the same business, and they all invariably bought

their herring. I have never known of but four instances in which they attempted to catch them.

In the season of 1868 and 1869, I was engaged in a small vessel of 20 tons for about a month of each season, in catching herring, on the coast of Maine, and caught 250 barrels each season. This business would be very extensive, were it profitable enough to induce the inhabitants to engage in it, as the herring are very numerous on the shore of Maine and Massachusetts, so much so, that they interfere with our mackerel fishing considerably.

HANSON B. JOYCE,
Master of Schr. Alice.

GLOUCESTER, Oct. 10, 1877.

Personally appeared the above named Hanson B. Joyce, master of the schr. *Alice*, who made oath, that the above statement is true, before me,
(L. S).

ADDISON CARTER,
Justice of the Peace, and Special Deputy Collector of Customs.

No. 249.

GLOUCESTER, MASS., Oct. 15, 1877.

I certify that I have this day personally visited the several firms enumerated below and have ascertained from them and their books the vessels belonging to Gloucester engaged in the mackerel fishery that have arrived from the Bay of St. Lawrence or British waters, during the year and up to this date (Oct. 15th, 1877) and the number of barrels of mackerel caught by each while in the Bay, or British waters,—where they were caught, whether within three miles of the shore,—and the amount of money realized from the sale of said mackerel. I also certify that the following list of vessels are all the vessels belonging to Gloucester engaged in the mackerel fishery that have as yet returned from the Bay of St. Lawrence or British waters.

ADDISON CARTER,
Spec. Dep. Collector for District of Gloucester.

NAMELY :

Sidney Friend & Bro.—Sch. *Hyperion*, packed out 215½ barrels; sold for \$2400—supposed to be caught off East Point, P. E. I. Sch. *J. J. Clark* packed 229½ barrels; sold for \$2250—don't know where caught.

Leonard Walen—Sch. *Martha C.*, packed 159 barrels; sold for \$1719—caught about one-half of them at Madeline Islands, one-third off Margaree, one-sixth up north.

Dennis and Ayer—Sch. *Mary Fernald*, packed out 130 barrels; not sold but will average \$15; total \$1950—don't know where caught.

Wonson Brothers—Sch. *Madawaska Maid*, packed 9 barrels; averaging \$16 per barrel, caught at Madeline Islands. Sch. *John S. McQuinn*, caught no mackerel in the Bay.

James G. Tarr & Bro.—Sch. *Amos Cutter*, packed 150 barrels—\$1950; caught off St. George Bay. Sch. *Flash*, packed 150 barrels—\$2,100; caught at Madeline Islands all but 20 barrels, caught at St. George Bay.

Harvey Knowlton—Sch. *Edward A. Horton*, packed 186 barrels—\$2534.50; caught off West Cape; about 20 barrels supposed to be caught inside of 3 miles.

George Dennis & Co.—Sch. *Helen M. Dennis*, packed 91 barrels, not sold; average \$13 per barrel; caught off Madeline Islands. Sch. *Fred P.*

Frye, caught nothing in the Bay. Sch. *Seth Stockbridge*, 80 barrels, averaging \$10 per barrel; don't know where caught.

Rowe & Jordan—Schr. *Ellen M. Crosby*, packed 8 barrels, at \$10—\$80. Schr. *Golden Hind*, packed 70; not sold; where caught not known.

John Pew & Son—Schr. *Eastern Queen*, packed 210 barrels—\$2,145; where caught not known.

Samuel Lane—Schr. *Moses Adams*, packed 85 barrels, average at \$11—\$935; where caught not known.

Leighton & Co.—Schr. *Falcon*, packed 107½ barrels—\$1,250.93; caught at Madeline Islands—40 barrels at East Point.

Joseph Friend—Schr. *William S. Baker*, packed 10 barrels, at \$11—\$110.

McKenzie, Hardy & Co.—Schr. *Vidette*, packed 133 barrels—\$1,629.25; caught principally at Madeline Islands.

D. C. & H. Babson—Schr. *Marion Grimes*, packed 137 barrels—\$1,635; caught at Madeline Islands.

Clark & Somes—Schr. *Frederic Gerring, Jr.*, packed 343 barrels—\$3,531; don't know where caught—vessel is away.

Benj. Haskell & Son—Schr. *Colorado*, pickled 85 barrels—\$860; caught off Rustico—about quarter within 3 miles of shore.

James Mansfield & Son—Schr. *William A. Perc*, packed 140 barrels—\$1,800.75; not known where caught—vessel out.

John H. Gale—Schr. *Alice M. Lewis*, packed out 199½ barrels—sold for \$2,476; seined 10 miles off the Island.

I certify that the foregoing statement is true.

ADDISON CARTER,

Spec. Dy. Collector.

James G. Tarr & Bro.—Schr. *Davy Crockett*, Capt. Charles Osier, will pack out 218 barrels mackerel, caught one-half at Madeline Islands, and one-half off Prince Edward Island; did not catch one-eighth of whole amount within the three-mile limit. The foregoing is the statement of Capt. Charles Osier. (Arrived the 16th Oct., 1877.)

Pettingell & Cunningham—Schr. *David M. Hilton*, Capt. Daniels, with 200 sea-barrels of mackerel, from the Bay; caught 90 barrels at Madeline Islands, and 110 barrels off Prince Edward Island; not more than 50 barrels of the whole were caught within three miles of the shore. The foregoing is a statement of Capt. Daniels.

Cunningham & Thompson—Schr. *Gwendolen*, Capt. William T. Gray, arrived from Bay of St. Lawrence on the 16th inst. Packed 225 barrels mackerel, one-third of which were number ones, the remainder number twos. About one-half were caught at Madeline Islands, the remainder off and around P. E. Island; not more than one-eighth were caught within the three-mile limit. This is the statement of Mr. Thompson, of the above firm.

Henry Friend, owner—Schr. *David J. Adams*, Capt. Danl. Rackliff, from Bay of St. Lawrence, arrived on the 18th inst. (having been in the Bay over two months), with 50 barrels of mackerel,—one-third ones, and the rest twos; 40 barrels were caught around P. E. Island, and 10 barrels caught near Port Hood; nearly all caught within three miles of the shore.

CUSTOM HOUSE, GLOUCESTER, Oct. 19, 1877.

I certify that the foregoing statement concerning schooners *David Crockett*, *David M. Hilton*, *Gwendolen*, and *David J. Adams*, have been reported to me as true, by the master or owner of the said vessel; and that these, together with a former certified list, sent to Capt. F. J. Babson

at Halifax, are all the vessels belonging to Gloucester that have arrived from the Bay of St. Lawrence with mackerel this season, up to the evening of Oct. 19, 1877.

(L. S.)

ADDISON CARTER.

Dy. Collector.

No. 250.

I, Joseph McLean, a naturalized citizen of the United States, now residing at Cape Negro, in the Province of Nova Scotia, being duly sworn, do depose and say, that I am the Captain of the schooner *Champion*, of Gloucester, in the State of Massachusetts, and that I have been engaged in fishing for mackerel in the Gulf of St. Lawrence since the 17th of August, 1877; and I came out of the Gulf the 20th of October. That during that time, my vessel took seventy sea-barrels of mackerel; that I came into the Harbour of Halifax last evening for shelter, and expect to leave this morning. As nearly as I can learn, the other vessels in the Bay did not average more than half a trip, and the mackerel fishery in the Gulf for the present year, as regards the United States, has been a complete failure. I have heard of two vessels only, which took three hundred barrels—the *George S. Low*, and the *Etta Gott*. I also heard that the *Herbert M. Rogers* took two hundred, and the *Ellen M. Crosby* six barrels—the *William S. Baker*, three barrels. All these which I have named have left the Bay, except the *Etta Gott*.

JOSEPH McLEAN.

Sworn at Halifax, this 23d day of October, A. D., 1877, before me,
L. W. DESBARRES.

Notary Public.

No. 251.

Statement of the number of barrels of mackerel inspected by A. E. Goodwin, Deputy Inspector of Fish, Port of Newburyport, Mass., during the years 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, and 1870,—

Date.	American waters.	British waters.
	Number of barrels.	Number of barrels.
1865.....	1,500	5,200
1866.....	2,045	5,405
1867.....	3,918	3,694
1868.....	2,561	1,969
1869.....	3,272	1,930
1870.....	4,262	1,806
	17,552	20,004

A. E. GOODWIN.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

Before me, E. F. Bartlett, a Notary Public, within and for said County of Essex, duly commissioned and qualified, personally came the above named A. E. Goodwin, well known to me as an Inspector of Fish, and whom I believe to be a man of truth and veracity, and subscribed the

foregoing statement, and made oath that the same was true and correct to his best knowledge and belief.

Witness my hand and Notarial Seal at Newburyport, in said County of Essex, this Twenty-Fourth day of September, A. D., 1877.

[L. S.]

E. F. BARTLETT,

Notary Public.

No. 252.

Statement of the Number of Barrels of Mackerel Inspected by George D. Thurlow, Inspector of Fish, for the Port of Newburyport, Mass., during the years 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876:

Date.	American waters.	British waters.
	Number of barrels.	Number of barrels.
1873.....	948	2,130
1874.....	2,687	2,371
1875.....	1,347	843
1876.....	2,005	
	6,987	5,344

GEORGE D. THURLOW.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS,
COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

Before me, E. F. Bartlett, Notary Public, duly commissioned and qualified, personally appeared the above named George D. Thurlow, personally known to be an inspector of fish, and whom I believe to be a man of truth and veracity, and made oath that the foregoing statement by him subscribed was true and correct, to his best knowledge and belief.

Witness my hand and Notarial Seal, this Twenty-Fourth day of September, A. D., 1877.

(L. S.)

E. F. BARTLETT.

Notary Public.

No. 253.

The following is a statement of the number of barrels of herring bought by the several firms in Gloucester during the year 1876; said herring having been caught by the inhabitants on the shores of the United States:—

Number of Barrels.

15,733

7,500

450

2,000

2,500

1,500

6,000

1,492

700

37,975

Name of Firm.

D. C. & H. Babson.

Gloucester Fish Co.

James H. Stetson.

Geo. P. Trigg & Co.

Geo. Perkins.

Simon Merchant.

Proctor, Trask & Co.,

John Pew & Son.

Clark & Somes.

GLOUCESTER, Oct. 15, 1877.

I certify that the above figures are a true statement of the firms above enumerated, as stated to me by them.

BENJ. F. COOK,
Inspector of Customs.

No. 254.

AUGUST 7, 1877.

Arrived at Gloucester British schooner *Harriet*, Capt. E. R. Perry, from Shelburne, N. S.

British schooner *Gertie*, from Lockeport, N. S., arrived May 5th and July 11th, 1877.

British schooner *Avon*, from fishing, arrived May 24th, June 11th, and July 23rd, 1877.

I certify that the British schooner *Harriet* and *Gertie* arrived at this Port as above stated, and fitted for seining. Also, that the schooner (British) *Avon*, has been engaged in fishing on this coast, and selling the fish at this place since May 5th, 1877.

BENJ. F. BLATCHFORD,
Boarding Officer, Gloucester, Mass.

No. 255.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 10, 1877.

I, Thomas E. Roberts, Master of the British schooner *M. E. McLean*, on oath do depose and say that I was born in Guysborough, Nova Scotia, am 31 years of age, have been engaged in freighting from Nova Scotia to Boston 4 years. I have brought up this trip 620 bbls of mackerel, 503 of these are English mackerel. I get 50 cents per barrel freight from Canso to Boston.

Last trip before this, I bought herring at 50 cents per barrel. I know that the expense on a barrel of mackerel or herring brought by steamer is at least one dollar per barrel to Gloucester. I have brought in the last four years 700 barrels of American mackerel. The freight has been about the same.

It is the universal fact, that one dollar is no more than a fair freight. I was part owner, and master of the schr. *Dusky Lake*, of Canso. I was in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling in 1869—got 180 bbls. in four weeks; and not doing so well as I ought to, I abandoned this fishery, and went onto the ocean Banks for fish. I have never been mackereling since, but I now go freighting.

THOMAS ROBERTS.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 10th, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Thomas Roberts, and made oath that the above statements by him subscribed are true, before me,

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 256.

I, J. Warren Wonson, of Gloucester, in the County of Essex, State of Massachusetts, on oath, depose and say, that I was part owner and agent of schr. *Tragabigzanda*, of Gloucester, of which vessel William Molloy was master, that in the season of 1876 said vessel made only one trip to the Grand Banks for cod-fish, the first trip said vessel was fitted for sea March 21st, 1876, and returned Aug. 23rd, 1876, having been

absent 4 months and 28 days. Said vessel's trip was weighed off, and accounted for as follows:—

65,300 lbs Large Cod, @ 2½c	\$1,632.50
7,440 " Small " @ 1¼	95.00
110 Gals. Oil @ 45	49.50
108 " " @ 50	54.00
20 " " @ 40	8.00
Fish sold by master,	239.68
620 lbs, Flitched Halibut, @ 2c.,	12.40

\$2,091.08

Less Stock Expenses,

296.31

2)1,794.77

Vessels,

897.38½

Crew,

897.38½

\$1,794.77

Stock Expenses as follows:—

Bait,	\$230.20
Ice,	11.60
Water,	3.20
Port Charges,	38.81
Towing,	8.00
6 Barrels,	4.50

296.31

12)897.38

Crew's Share, 74.78 each for 4 month and 28 days.

I further depose, and say, that on her second trip, she went to the Western Bank and Cape Sable. Sailed on or about the 28th day of August, and returned Nov. 24th—absent about 2 months and 26 days. She weighed off as follows:—

21,743 lbs Large Cod, @ 3 c	\$652.29
3,625 " Small " @ 1½	54.37
Fish sold by Master in Prospect,	280.50
220 Gals. Slivers, @ 15c.,	33.00

\$1,020.16

Stock Expenses,

256.43

2)763.73

381.86½

381.86½

\$763.73

Stock Expenses as follows:—

Bait,	\$184.22
Ice,	47.55
Water,	7.22
Custom House,	4.46
Pilot,	8.88
Telegram,	1.10
Towing,	3.00

\$256.43

Crew's Share, (12 men), for 2 months and 26 days, \$31.82.

I further depose and say, that said schr. *Tragabigzanda* did not pay her running expenses during the year 1876 by Two Thousand dollars.

That said Molloy was discharged from our employ as being entirely untrustworthy, and to the best of my belief, is now a resident of Newfoundland, where he came from.

In presence of CYRUS STORY.)

J. WARREN WONSON.

I, Joseph Adams, a resident of Gloucester, County of Essex, State of Massachusetts, on oath depose and say, that I was one of the crew of schr. *Tragabigzanda*, of Gloucester, in 1876, on her second trip to the Banks. That we fished on the Western Banks and off Cape Sable, and that said schooner did not go near Newfoundland. All her fresh bait having been bought at Shelburne and Prospect, Nova Scotia.

his
JOSEPH x ADAMS.
mark.

(In presence of FRANK E. SMOTHER & CYRUS STORY.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COUNTY OF ESSEX SS.

CITY OF GLOUCESTER.

Know all men by these present,—that on this twentieth day of October, A. D., 1877, before me, Cyrus Story, a Notary Public, duly appointed and sworn in and for the County of Essex, aforesaid, personally appeared J. Warren Wonson and Joseph Adams, before named, who made oath to the truth of the foregoing statements by them signed. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal, the day and year last above written.

(L. S.)

CYRUS STORY,
Notary Public.

No. 257.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 3, 1877.

I, Charles Martin, Master of the schr *Martha C.*, of Gloucester, do on oath depose and say, that I was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, am 40 years of age, have been engaged in the fisheries for 30 years. I have just returned from a trip to the Gulf of St. Lawrence for mackerel. I commenced to fit my vessel for this trip July 3rd, 1877, and sailed from Gloucester the 9th, arrived in the Bay on the 17th; took my bait on the coast of Maine. Took my first mackerel in Antigonish Bay, about 15 barrels on the hook, within three miles of the shore. We fished between Cape George and East Point, we went around Prince Edward Island, could not find any mackerel; tried in the middle of the Bay, between Cape George and East Point again; caught 80 barrels on the hook, from six to eight miles from shore. Afterward went to Margaree and Chittigong; took 80 barrels there, close into the shore. This was all we got. We then cruised all around the Island and up off Cape North, and did not find any mackerel. We then went to Pirate Cove and refitted, and then went into the Bay again, and found no mackerel, neither could I find any vessel that had seen any. I got entirely discouraged and left the Bay, and came up on the Nova Scotia shore and found no prospect of mackerel there, and came home; found no vessels doing anything. I arrived home the 1st of September. I packed out 40 barrels number ones, and 110 barrels of number twos, and 10 barrels threes. My mackerel were worth \$1,920.00.

My vessel is a new, first-class one, 79 tons.

I carried a seine-boat and seine.

The charter of my vessel is worth \$250 per month,	\$500 00
Wages of 14 men, at \$30 per month,	840 00
Captain's wages, two months,	140 00
Outfits,	600 00
Packing and inspection,	120 00
Insurance,	100 00
Use of seine and boat,	150 00

Cost of trip,	\$2,450 00
Receipts—160 barrels mackerel, at \$12,	\$1,920 00

Loss,	\$530 00
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I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence 14 seasons for mackerel. I was there in 1875, and brought home 70 barrels; was gone over two months. The mackerel fishery in the bay is a failure, compared with former years. The mackerel do not stay there as formerly. I do think that the large amount of bait, thrown by American vessels, formerly kept the mackerel in the Bay. There is no feed at all for the mackerel in the Bay now. I have seen no brit or shrimp there this year. Some of the mackerel I took had small smelt in them; this is unusual. I never saw any smelt in mackerel in the Bay before. I have never caught many mackerel inshore, except at the Magdalen Islands. I have caught more inshore this trip than any I have been. My best judgment, from my experience, as fair and candid, is, that not more than one-sixth of the mackerel taken by American vessels, are taken within three miles of the shore.

I have taken many whole trips without going inside of five miles. When a large fleet of vessels are throwing bait, they can keep the mackerel off shore five miles without any trouble.

I have trans-shipped my fare of mackerel once, from Canso. The expense, landed in Gloucester, was one dollar per barrel. I never heard of boats being injured, nor any complaint whatever. Never heard or knew of mackerel gurry hurting the fisheries; in dressing mackerel the fish will follow the vessel to get the gurry thrown over.

I have seined off the American shore for mackerel two seasons. The American shore mackerel are much better than the Bay mackerel in quality and price.

I have stocked as high as \$7,000 in one season in the Bay, eight years ago.

My lowest stock for one season in the Bay was \$600.

An American vessel, as they are now fitted, must stock \$5,000 in the Bay, to pay her bills. I have been the two last winters to Newfoundland for herring. Bought all my herring of the people on shore. Paid on an average eight shillings per barrel, or \$1.60; paid for some \$2. There is no way that the people there can realize so much for their herring as this sale to American vessels. The American trade there for herring is the chief support of the people, and is a source of great profit to them.

I have been master of the schooners *Quickstep*, *Belvidere*, *Seaman's Pride*, *Enterprise*, *D. A. Bunham*, *Fred. Gerring*, *Charlotte Augusta*, *Mary E. Daniels*, *Joseph Chandler*, *Martha C.*

CHARLES MARTIN.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 3d, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Charles Martin, and made oath, that all the statements by him above made, are true to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me,

DAVID W. LOW.

(L. S.)

Notary Public.

No. 258.

I, William Parsons, 2nd, senior member of the firm of William Parsons 2nd & Co., on oath depose and say, that I am part owner and fitter, with others of said firm, of the schooner *Pescadore* (*Pescador*); that I have examined the books of said firm and find that James Howlett made two trips in said schooner, in the year 1867; that said schooner packed out 463 $\frac{3}{4}$ barrels of mackerel; that the shares of said vessel was \$2,701; that said Howlett's shares was \$224.37.

I further depose and say that I have also examined the books of said firm in regard to Daniel McPhee, in schooner *Messina*, and find his name as one of the crew, in 1865 only, he not having been in her in 1863. Said schooner packed out in 1865, when said McPhee was in her, two hundred and sixty barrels of mackerel (260 bbls.), his share amounting to \$98.21; the vessels' share was \$1,745.19.

WM. PARSONS 2ND.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COUNTY OF ESSEX SS.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 14, 1877.

Subscribed and sworn to by above named William Parsons 2nd, before me,

DAVID W. LOW,

(L. S.)

Notary Public.

No. 259.

I, Solomon Jacobs, of Gloucester, Mass., on oath, depose and say, that I am Master of the schr. *Moses Adams*, of Gloucester, and have just arrived from a mackerel voyage to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, having caught 190 bbls. of mackerel on the trip, one-third of them we caught on Bank Orphan, the rest at different places, and about 20 barrels within the three mile limit. I am very sure that the number caught within three mile limit will not exceed 25 barrels. I should judge that 150 of the 190 bbls. are number ones, as they are good-sized mackerel, having caught the most of them well up north in the Gulf—have not yet sold, but expect to get \$16 for 1's, \$10.50, and \$7.00 for them. I have been two months on the trip.

The cost of the trip is as follows:—

Charter, @ \$500 per Month	\$1,000
Provisions, &c.,	300
Barrels, Inspection, &c., @ \$1.75	330
Captain's Commissions, @ 4.00 per cwt.	106

 \$1,736.00

Owner's Profit.... .. 1,278.25

 \$457.75 lost by the voyage.

150 bbls No. 1s @ \$16.00.....	\$2,400.00
25 " " 2s @ 10.50.....	262.50
	<hr/>
	\$2,662.50
Captain's Commissions	106.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,556.50
Crew's Half	1,278.25
	<hr/>
Owner's Share	\$1,278.25

This is my first trip to the Bay for mackereling, and I think it will be the last, and would have done a great deal better on our own shore. I have, for the five years previous, fished on our own shore, and always done a great deal better than I have this year. In the year 1872, I was master of the sch'r *Sabine*, and fished off this shore, starting late in the season, and caught 650 bbls., which sold for \$18 and \$20 per barrel; and in 1873, I was master of the schooner *S. R. Lane*, of Gloucester, and caught 1,600 barrels off this shore (the American); in 1874, I was master of same vessel, and caught 1,200 barrels, averaging \$10 a barrel; in 1875, I was master of same vessel, and caught 1,800 barrels of mackerel off the American shore, and stocked \$11,000.

I would state that previous to going into the Bay this year, I was mackereling on this shore, and caught 800 bbls., for which we stocked \$5,200.

SOLOMON JACOBS,
Master of Schr. Moses Adams.

CUSTOM HOUSE, GLOUCESTER,)
Oct. 4th, 1877. }

Personally appeared the above named Solomon Jacobs, master of schr. *Moses Adams*, who subscribed, and made oath, that the above statement is true, before me,

ADDISON CARTER,
Special Deputy Collector and Justice of the Peace.

No. 260.

I, Albion K. Pierce of Gloucester, Mass., on oath depose and say that I am master of schooner *Wm. S. Baker* of Gloucester, and have been engaged in mackereling during this season, and fished off the American shore the first two months of the season, and caught 350 barrels, by which we stocked \$1,950. From dispatches and favorable reports I was induced to go to the Bay of St. Lawrence, and sailed for Bay Chaleur the 18th July, and was in the Bay 14 days, and tried for mackerel all the way from P. E. Island to Gaspe and other places, inshore and out, and caught three barrels only. I then came home and fished on the coast of Maine, and caught 160 barrels at that place, from which the net, stock amounted to \$1,455. I consider in my trip to the Bay this year I lost \$2,000. Last year, 1876 I was master of the same vessel, and fished on the American coast, and caught 1,420 barrels, and stocked \$11,000 net. In 1875 I was master of the same vessel. I fished on this shore and landed 1,000 barrels of mackerel up to middle of July; and on the 16th July we started for the Bay and tried hard at P. E. Island and Madeline Islands for ten days. but finding no mackerel of any consequence, we started for home, having caught nine barrels of No. 2's

during all the time in the Bay. We then fished on the American shore and caught 600 barrels, making 1,600 barrels of good mackerel caught on this shore during the year, from which we stocked \$13,300. In 1874 I was master of the same vessel, and fished for mackerel during the season on this (the American) shore, and caught over 1,100 barrels, from which we stocked \$9,000. Previous to 1874, I had been in the habit of going to the Bay mackereling, and some years we did well and others poorly. Over one-half of all the mackerel caught there these years were caught off Madeline Islands, and, excepting at Madeline Islands, not one-tenth part were caught within the three-mile limit.

I have been employed during the winter for the past seven years in going to Newfoundland after herring, and for the past three winters I loaded ten vessels at that place. I hired the inhabitants to fish for us, and left with the inhabitants \$24,000, for 20,300 barrels of herring, loaded into the ten vessels which I superintended. During the last two winters the owners of this enterprise have lost \$8,000 by the prosecution of this business. Previous to the last three winters I was accustomed to go there for herring for myself alone, and was there four winters in succession, and always got a cargo, paying \$1 per barrel for them. This business is very extensive and of great importance to the inhabitants. I have seen at one time over twenty sail of American vessels there buy herring, and all of them buy their herring; and have never known an American vessel to catch their herring at this place, always invariably buying them of the inhabitants. At Boone Bay, the inhabitants rely almost entirely upon this trade with our vessels, and without which they would be very destitute. In the winter of 1876, when I was there, the herring were very scarce,—almost a failure,—and occasioned great destitution and suffering among the inhabitants of Boone Bay; so much so, that I was obliged to give away five barrels of flour to them,—and Mr. Curling, minister at that place, bought of me as many more, and other stores, which he distributed among the poor people.

ALBION K. PIERCE.

GLOUCESTER, Oct. 5, 1877.

Personally appeared the above named Albion K. Pierce, who made oath that the above statement, by him subscribed, is true, before me.

ADDISON CARTER,

Justice of the Peace, Spec. Dep. Collector of District of Gloucester.

No. 260 A.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 17, 1877.

I, William Elwell, master of the schr. *Isabella*, born in Gloucester, have been engaged in the fisheries 20 years. I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence 12 seasons for mackerel. My best stock in the Bay was \$2000, my poorest \$1200. I left off going there 8 years ago because I could do so much better on the American coast. I have fished for mackerel on the American coast the past 8 years—5 years using a seine. My best stock mackereling on the American coast was \$7,500 for 5 months fishing.

My poorest stock in any season was \$4,500.

When in the Gulf of St. Lawrence I took the most of my mackerel at the Magdalens. The American fleet usually fish the most there. I did not get more than one barrel in ten inside of three miles. Mackerel in the Bay when in large bodies or masses are most always off shore from

6 to 20 miles, and when we find them there we get large decks of them. The mackerel on the American coast are from the rocks to thirty miles off.

I consider the American fishermen are not at all compensated by free fishing within three miles of the British coasts in lieu of the imposed duty of \$2 per barrel on British mackerel.

WILLIAM ELWELL.

GLoucester, MASS., }
ESSEX, S. S., Sept. 17, 1877. }

Personally appeared the above named Wm. Elwell, who subscribed to and made oath that the foregoing statement was true before me.

(L. S.)

ADDISON CARTER,

*Justice of the Peace, and Special Deputy Collector
of Customs, for District of Gloucester.*

No. 261.

I, Peter Sinclair, master and owner of the American schooner *C. B. Manning*, was born in the Orkney Islands, am 58 years of age, and have been engaged in the fisheries nearly 50 years. I am now seining off the American shore for mackerel.

I have been seven seasons mackereling in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. I have not been there since 1873. The highest stock I ever made in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling was \$7,000.00 (1859.) My poorest year I stocked \$150.00 (one hundred and fifty dollars), gone six weeks; this was in 1860. Any American vessel, over 50 tons, with 12 or 14 men, must stock at least \$5,000 for a full season's work in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackereling, to pay her bills. Of all the mackerel I have taken in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, not more than one-third were taken within three miles of the shore, including the Magdalen Islands; and the larger the fleet of vessels in the Bay, throwing bait, the longer the mackerel will stop in one place. The action of the mackerel is largely influenced by the movements of the fleet. Four years ago, when I was in the Bay, the mackerel fishery there was a partial failure, and since then the American shore mackereling has been much more successful and profitable.

For the last six years the American shore mackerel have been of much finer quality, and brought better prices than Bay mackerel of the same brand.

The mackerel feed on shrimp and a red seed that floats on the water; wherever we find them we usually find mackerel. This food is generally more plenty on the American coast than in the Gulf, and I have found mackerel with young mackerel inside of them, having eaten them for food.

I never knew that throwing over mackerel cleanings would hurt the live mackerel; on the contrary, I have always noticed the mackerel to follow the vessel while we were dressing, and eat all we threw overboard. I never knew of any American vessels interfering with the shore boats in any way, except in cases where the boats got blowed off, to pick them up and tow them in, and in some cases to take men from the bottom of the boats that had been upset, and save their lives; and I have often given the boat fishermen bait and also lines and hooks. I do not consider the privilege to fish inshore of any real value whatever, and the duties remitted on Canadian fish and mackerel is vastly in excess of compensation for what is of little value to our fishermen. The only advantage gained by the inshore concession is security from annoyance, heretofore

practiced by the Canadian marine force, the object of seizure being stimulated by one-half of the prize money being divided among the crews of the cutters. The inshore fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence for cod and halibut is a matter belonging to the past. No American fisherman now fishes inshore for either. I have fished out of Gloucester for cod and halibut 27 seasons, and I never took either fish inside of three miles of the English shore. The American fishery now is absolutely and purely a deep-sea fishery for cod and halibut.

The first fresh bait bought in Newfoundland by American fishermen was about 22 years ago, and brought to Gloucester to bait the Georges men. It is about 8 or 9 years since the Grand Bankers and Western Bankers began to buy bait at Newfoundland; for centuries before they had used salt bait and the other bait and refused fish taken on the Banks; they also used to buy bait at St. Peirre. Now they go up Fortune Bay for it; they pay cash for this bait. It costs \$150 to a vessel for a Grand Bank fare. The people there have got well off by the sale of this bait; they are rich, and every dollar left there by American vessels is clear gain to them, as there is no other use or market where they would use these herring they sell to American vessels.

I have owned and run more than thirty vessels, and in the different branches of the fisheries pursued by American fishermen, I have had as much experience as any person now living; and I know the value of the different fisheries by actual experience in practical fishing, in each department, and the scale of values by actual sales. In the herring trade for the first eleven years, it was profitable to those engaged in it, but for the past eleven years there has been more lost than gained, on a fair average.

I have lost myself \$1,500 on one voyage, and \$1,100 on another. I never made over one thousand dollars on any one herring voyage. I have known vessel after vessel to throw overboard her cargo of herring in the harbor of Gloucester, and to have given them away in New York for manure.

PETER SINCLAIR.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

COUNTY OF ESSEX ss.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 3, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Peter Sinclair, and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true, before me,

(L. S.)

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 262.

GLOUCESTER, September 1, 1877.

I, Wm. T. Rowe, Master of the schr. *B. D. Haskins*, of Gloucester, do, on oath, depose and say, that I was born in Gloucester, am 39 years of age, have been engaged in the fisheries 25 years.

I have just returned from a trip to Block Island, and the last week, off Monhegan, Maine.

The mackerel taken off Block Island are very large and fat, taking 90 mackerel to a barrel. We set our seine once off Monhegan, and took 20 barrels No. 1s and 2s. We came home to refit and are going immediately to the Eastern shore. There is now a great body of mackerel there, from close into the rocks to 25 miles off. The *Maud Muller* took 230 bbls in her seine at one haul. The *Fairy Queen*, of Portland, took 60

bbls. at one haul. The *Volunteer* took 100 barrels in 3 hauls. All the vessels the day we left, took all the way from 20 to 60 bbls. The *Corporal Trim*, of Swan's Island, is in with 210 barrels No. 1 and 2 mackerel, taken on the hook. She took from 10 to 15 barrels each day. This is the best prospect we have had this year, and it indicates a good fall catch on our shores. The owners of some of the vessels now in the Bay of St. Lawrence have sent by telegraph for them to come home and go for these shore mackerel. I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence 7 seasons, mackereling. The early trips in the Bay the mackerel were taken offshore, later in the Fall the mackerel were inshore.

In 1851, we took all our mackerel inshore, that is, from one mile to ten; in 1854, we never took a mackerel within ten miles of the shore; have not been there since 1854. I have been shore seining for mackerel since, every season. I have shared \$241 to a share in six weeks' mackereling in the Bay of St. Lawrence; I have shared \$241 to a share in one day's fishing on our own shores. The average difference in the two mackerel fisheries is, as two dollars for the Bay to five dollars for our own shores. I have been master of the schr. *Mary Elizabeth*, 4 years; *Bloomfield*, 2 years; *David Osier*, 2 years; *Farragut*, 5 years; *Belle*, 2 years; *Elihu Burritt*, 1 year; *A. M. Dodd*, 1 year; *B. D. Haskins*, 1 year.

WILLIAM T. ROWE.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 1, 1877.

Sworn and subscribed before me,

(L. S.)

ADDISON CARTER,

Justice of the Peace, and Deputy Collector of Port of Gloucester.

No. 263.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 29, 1877.

I, Oliver F. Howard, master of the late schooner *Coll Ellsworth*, of Gloucester, do on oath depose and say that I was born in Deer Isle, Maine, am 53 years of age, have been engaged in the fisheries 32 years.

I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence 28 seasons mackereling, and am thoroughly acquainted with all the fisheries. The highest stock I ever made in the Bay mackereling was \$5,000, and my lowest stock was \$1400, and an American vessel must stock certainly \$4,500 in the Bay mackerel fishery to pay her bills. I have mostly fished for mackerel off the Magdalen Islands, and of all the mackerel I have taken in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, not one-fourth were taken within 3 miles. I have never seen any interference with the shore boats, never heard any complaints of throwing over offal or mackerel gibs. My experience in this respect is that the mackerel cleanings is first-rate food for codfish, as they swarm around the vessel and eat it voraciously. As master and owner of my own vessel I have not made any money in the Bay mackereling. I have made a living and that is all. I should say that a fair average during the last 20 years would be 300 sail of American vessels in the Gulf, and with a full knowledge of the facts, I should say that 300 barrels is a full average catch for each vessel. I have been in the herring business 15 seasons. Invariably the herring are bought from the British fishermen and paid for in cash. The only demand for these herring is from Americans or for the American market, or for bait. Without this market the herring would be entirely useless to the British people.

I know that this herring trade has been of great advantage to the inhabitants of the English coasts. The Winter trade supplies them with

the only fishing they have at that season, and they would have no other employment if it were not for the herring trade. The American cod and halibut fishery is entirely a deep sea fishery, and there is no fish of this kind taken less than 12 miles from the shore, and most all of them are taken on the ocean banks. I have just returned from Gulf of St. Lawrence in the yacht *America*. The prospect there is not good for a large catch of mackerel. Last year I was in the Bay of St. Lawrence mackereling, and it was the poorest year I had ever known there. I observed a great many Albecores, sometimes called Baracoutas and Benitos, which are deadly foes to the mackerel, driving them away from every locality where these fish are found. In coming along the British coast and the American shores in the yacht *America*, we saw immense quantities of these fish, and in my opinion the presence of these fish is fatal to the mackerel fishery while they remain in any locality.

The albacore is a fish about 3 feet long, formed like a shark with a large fin erect on the back. They are extremely voracious and very smart. I have not seen any before for 8 years, and their presence is to my mind the reason of the mackerel being so scarce in the Gulf and along the British and American shores. The vessels I have commanded are as follows: *Pocahontas*, *E. P. Howard*, *C. C. Davis*, *Typhoon*, *Catalina*, *Coll Ellsworth*.

OLIVER F. HOWARD,
Master Schooner Coll Ellsworth.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 29, 1877.

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

Then personally appeared the above-named Oliver F. Howard, and made oath that the above statements by him subscribed are true, to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me,

DAVID W. LOW, *Notary Public.*

No. 264.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 25, 1877.

I, Joseph W. Collins, master of the American schr. *Howard*, of Gloucester, on oath do depose and say:—That I was born in Islesboro, Maine, 38 years of age, have been engaged in the fisheries 28 years. I have just returned from a fishing voyage to the Western Banks. Have fished nearly every year partially on the Grand and Western Banks, since 1864. Have purchased bait at Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. There are two modes of keeping fish taken on these Banks: One method is the use of ice for a fresh halibut trip; the other we use salt for a fresh fish trip, we carry some bait from home. We also take a few barrels of fresh herring from Nova Scotia and after the first set of our trawls we use the refuse fish taken on our trawls for bait for halibut, which is all sufficient for the purpose. I never caught any bait inshore and I never knew an American vessel to get bait there other than by purchase.

The average amount of fresh bait taken at Nova Scotia is about 4 barrels of herring to each vessel for a fresh trip for halibut. For a salt trip for codfish we buy bait along the coast of Nova Scotia and at Newfoundland. From 20 to 40 barrels baiting each on the long summer trips to the Grand Banks. We bait from 3 to 4 times usually at Newfoundland, averaging about 200 dollars for the whole trip.

I have taken several whole fares without leaving the Bank, using for

bait squid, taken on the Banks and refuse fish. The buying of bait on the shores of Newfoundland is a convenience rather than a necessity, the whole profit of the transaction resting with the Newfoundlanders. We also buy ice of the people, paying \$2½ to \$3 per ton in gold for it. We also use ice from the icebergs. The only market for their ice is the ice used by American fishermen to preserve the bait fresh and it is only within three years since this manner has been adopted by them. For centuries this fishery has been pursued successfully without this convenience of iced bait.

When our vessels go into Newfoundland for bait they are delayed often a fortnight, which of course is a loss to them. My trip in July, 1876, I was delayed a fortnight. The inhabitants are very eager for our trade, coming out to meet us in boats to solicit our patronage. The men who furnish bait are operative fishermen. Since the advent of the American fleet these men have become independent of the coast traders and there is some feeling on the part of the traders on that account. The operative fishermen were formerly employed by the traders and paid out of the store mostly, but the American trade in herring paying money for them, has changed the relations largely.

There is no fishery on the shores of the Dominion, or Newfoundland, used as a shore fishery for halibut and codfish by American fishermen. Their fisheries are wholly and purely deep sea fisheries.

I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence for mackerel part of 22 seasons.

My highest stock was \$8000 whole season.

" lowest " " \$1800 " "

An American vessel manned and equipped as the Bay-men are, must at the least stock \$5000 for a season to pay her bills. In my experience not more than one-fourth of the mackerel taken were taken within 3 miles of the shore. I never heard such a thing as mackerel cleanings or offal affecting the fish unfavorably, when thrown overboard. Often times after dressing and throwing the fresh offal overboard, we have found the mackerel attracted by it and caught good decks of mackerel that had apparently come in to this as in to our throw bait. We use it often to extend our bait. The British boat fishery is pursued near the shore and the schooners will not venture in where they are, especially if the wind is on shore owing to the shallowness of the water. The boat fishery is one thing, the schooner fishery another and different thing. I never knew of but one boat injured by the fleet and that was done by accident. The boat fishermen often come on board our vessels for favors which are cheerfully granted, and in the case of injury, above mentioned, the owners were well remunerated for the loss. The idea that fish offal thrown overboard can be detected by the smell after it has sunk is nonsense. I have trans-shipped my mackerel in one instance, putting them on board a British vessel for freight home. The advantage of trans-shipment at present is of no value whatever, as few or none of our vessels obtain a full trip, and the Bay mackereling has been a losing business the past 4 years and this year bids fair to be worse than any.

JOS. W. COLLINS.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, }
COUNTY OF ESSEX, S. S., }
GLOUCESTER, Aug. 28th, 1877. }

Then personally appeared the above named Joseph W. Collins and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed are true to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me.

[L. S.]

DAVID W. LOW, *Notary Public.*

No. 265.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 25, 1877.

I, John Glenn, was born in York, Maine; am 39 years of age, and on oath do depose and say, that I have been engaged in the fishing business twenty years. I have been mackereling in Gulf St. Lawrence for 10 seasons, mostly from Gloucester. The best stock I ever made was \$5,000 in any season; was in the *Abba H. Sycasey*, of Gloucester, buying a license for fishing inshore. We fished mostly around the Magdalen Islands, and about all our mackerel were taken there. \$5,000 was the highest stock I ever made in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, mackerel fishing in the *Abba H. Sycasey*. We did not have occasion to use our license. We were also on Bank Bradley. My lowest stock was \$2,000, in 1871. An American schooner for a full season's fishing from June to last of October in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, must stock \$5,000 to pay her bills. I never knew of any American vessel damaging the British boats, but, on the contrary, have often had them come to us to grind bait, and other favors.

This present season we went from York, Maine, to Gulf of St. Lawrence, codfishing, in schooner *Anna F. Mason*, 30 tons, carries 9 men. Commenced to fit the 1st of July; took no bait from home; bought ice in the Gut of Canso; paid \$3 per ton for it; went up off Point Miscou; caught our bait on the grounds,—i. e., that is, 15 miles off the shore,—in nets; the bait was herring, and commenced fishing with trawls; was there a fortnight; took 25,000 lbs. split fish; threw most of the offal overboard. There were 10 other American vessels fishing at the same place; saw 20 Nova Scotia vessels up and down P. E. Island, fishing for codfish using hand lines. They throw over the offal as we do. Never knew of over 30 sail of American vessels in the Gulf codfishing. I should say there were 100 sail of American vessels mackereling. I know that while I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence that not one-tenth part of the whole American catch of mackerel is taken within three miles of the shore. We have always thrown overboard the fish gurry, and I never have noticed any diminution of fish on that account. The American fleet fish in 20 fathoms of water, and they throw over their gurry in this deep water. We bought some supplies on our way home. I know of no inshore fishery for codfish now pursued by American vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The vessels in Maine can obtain any quantity of porgie slivers and clams for bait at home, but it is cheaper to catch the bait on the Banks. Bait was scarce on this trip on the fishing grounds. We could have obtained bait from the British shore fishermen at about the same price as it would cost to take it from home; but we prefer to take the chance of getting it on the fishing ground. There used to be quite a number of vessels from Maine pursue the codfishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, but of late years this has fallen off greatly.

The fishermen have put their vessels into the American shore mackerel fishery, which has been very much more profitable of late years. This present trip my crew shared \$30 each; time employed, six weeks. I have been master of the schooners *Joe Hooker*, *Metacom*, *Iris*, *A. H. Mason*.

JOHN GLENN,

Master of Schooner A. H. Mason, York, Me.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 25, 1877.

Personally appeared the above named John Glenn, and swore that the above statement by him subscribed, is true, before me.

ADDISON CARTER, *Justice of the Peace.*

No. 266.

GLOUCESTER, August 31, 1877.

I, John P. Hutchinson, master of the schr. *Robert T. Clark*, of Bridgeport, Connecticut, do, on oath, depose and say, that I was born in New York, am 54 years of age, and have just returned from a voyage to Gottenburg, Sweden. I started from Gloucester, the 21st of April, 1877, and went to the Magdalen Islands for herring. I carried no nets from Gloucester, but in the Straits of Canso, I hired one seine and two boats, and 4 men, all British subjects. At the Island, the seine, manned by the owners, and some 6 others that I hired there, took about 400 barrels of herring. All the labor of taking, packing, etc., was done by British subjects, and their service paid for in cash. I also bought 200 barrels of herring from other British fishermen, paying about 25 cents per barrel, landed on board my vessel. Not being able to get as many herring as I wanted at the Magdalens, I started on the 20th of May for Fortune Bay. There were 30 American vessels at the Magdalen Islands after herring, buying and hiring the herring caught, the same as I was. Arrived at Fortune Bay on the 25th of May, and bought 1,300 barrels of herring from the people on shore, paid 80 cents per barrel in gold.

Left Fortune Bay the 18th of June, and arrived at Gottenburg on the 5th of July, herring in good order, and sold slow, and at prices that will not more than pay the expenses of the voyage. I found the people at Fortune Bay very desirous to sell.

My voyage was as much a commercial voyage, as if I were buying potatoes or any other product of the Dominion; and all of the herring taken by other vessels, so far as I could observe, were bought and paid for in the same manner as I bought. I carried 2,000 bbls from Eastport which were never landed at Fortune Bay, but I was obliged to pay duties on them. I also paid light dues, \$45.

I have never been in the fishing business, and as far as my observation goes, the trade with the American vessels at Newfoundland and the Magdalens is a source of profit, and large gains to the people there.

The *Joseph Wilder*, an American vessel, was at Gottenburg when I was, and her cargo of herring was half rotten. Taking the whole of the European trade in herring, sent from this side, I should say, on the whole, that there has been no money made in it by Americans. This trade is experimental, and the full results are, so far, not very satisfactory.

JOHN P. HUTCHINSON.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 1st, 1877.

Then personally appeared John P. Hutchinson, above named, who made oath, that all the above statements by him subscribed are true, to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me,

(L. S.)

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 267.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 31, 1877.

I, James McIsaac, Master of the schooner *Lais*, of Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia, on oath do depose and say, that I was born in Port Hastings, Strait of Canso, am 42 years of age, that I have been engaged in

the fisheries for 18 years, just arrived from Grand Banks and Gulf of St. Lawrence from a codfish trip. I brought in 80,000 lbs. codfish; we took 60,000 lbs. on Grand Banks; the vessel sprung a leak, and we had to run in home. I, after my vessel was repaired, went on to bank Bradelle, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where I took 20,000 more of codfish, 25 miles from shore. I caught my bait for this trip off Prince Edward Island, about three miles off from shore; the bait I used was mackerel. It is the usual custom of the vessels from Nova Scotia, bound to the Banks codfishing, to buy bait from the shore people of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia; the average price of herring is about \$2 per barrel. I have paid as high as \$3.50 per barrel.

The market of the fishing vessels buying bait of the shore people is a very profitable one for the shoresmen, as they get more for their herring, selling them fresh, than any other way they can dispose of them. I have been to Newfoundland, to buy fresh herring, seven seasons, and when I first went there the people hardly had a net or a boat, and they were living very poorly; but now, owing to the herring trade with the American and other vessels, they are prosperous and are living in good style. They own boats and nets, and all of this prosperity is directly owing to this trade. There is no other market for these herring, and they would be useless if it were not for the market this trade affords. On the Banks, for a fresh trip, we first use herring to start us, and then, after the first fish are caught, we use the refuse fish for bait. I have caught four trips on the Banks without having any herring, and took squid on the Banks, and these squid, with the refuse, was all I used. I should say that if all the vessels would carry salt bait they would do full as well as they do now with herring. I think using fresh bait makes the fish dainty. The Provincetown vessels this year have done as well as any vessels with fresh bait; they using clams. I have never heard of any boats in the Bay being injured before the talk this year; but I have known the boats to flock around the American vessels to get the benefit of their bait, so that the vessels could not get a line into the water.

I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence 10 seasons mackereling, in American vessels; never with seines; always with the hook. The best season's work I ever made in the bay was \$400 to a share. The poorest season was \$200. I have not been in the bay for four years. Some years we get more inshore; some years get more offshore. I should say that one-half of the mackerel are, in my experience of hooking, taken inshore, viz: within three miles. I never heard or knew of such a thing as fish cleanings hurting the fish; that is a new idea.

The American seiners have made a great deal of money in seining mackerel off their own coast; this I know, being where I could ascertain this fact.

The American cod and halibut fishery is a deep-sea fishery entirely.

Years ago a few trips were made up around Anticosti, but it is nothing to the great sea-fishing. Now they take all their fish on the Banks, off shore; none less than 12 miles off, and some 300 miles off.

JAMES McISAAC.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 21, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named James McIsaac, and made oath that the above statement, by him subscribed, is true. Before me,

(L. S.)

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 268.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 28, 1877.

I, John S. Jameson, master of the schr. *Henry Wilson*, of Gloucester, on oath, do depose and say: That I was born in Guysboro, Nova Scotia, am 46 years of age, have been engaged in the fisheries for 30 years.

I have just arrived from a trip to Greenland for halibut. I brought home 120,000 lbs. of halibut and 30,000 lbs. of codfish. We caught our fish 25 miles from land. I have been 10 years in the Western and Grand Bank fisheries. We usually take 15 bbls. of porgie slivers for a trip from Gloucester, and either go to Nova Scotia or Newfoundland for fresh bait. We always buy this fresh bait and pay cash for it. We pay on an average about $1\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per barrel for this bait, taking 45 bbls to a trip, usually two trips a year. Sometimes we go in for bait 4 times to a trip, taking 45 bbls. each time. The bait costs us about 200 dollars for the full trip. If there was no demand for these herring the people would not catch them at all. The American fisheries on the Banks has absolutely created a new business for these people. I have caught a number of trips of fish without getting any fresh bait from the shore, using my slivers and refuse fish. The Grand Bank fisheries has been pursued for centuries, the first beginning of this shore fresh bait business is within 10 years. It is entirely to the advantage of the shore people of Newfoundland and other places to sell this bait, as they realize large sums from what would otherwise be of no value whatever to them.

There is nearly a half million dollars paid to the English people for herring by Americans, including the winter fresh herring trade. This would be entirely worthless to them except for the American trade. The American cod and halibut fishery is entirely a deep sea fishery. With centuries of fishing on the sea Banks and for centuries throwing over offal there is no real diminution of fish there. The use of fresh bait has made the fish dainty and on the whole it has been an injury to our fishing there using this bait. If all the Bank fishermen would use salt bait it would be better for the whole.

I have been in the Gulf of St. Lawrence for mackerel 10 years or seasons. Not more than one-fourth of the mackerel are taken within three miles of the shore by the Americans. American vessels in the Bay will not average more than three hundred barrels of mackerel each for a seasons mackereling there, this is a fair average for 10 years.

JOHN S. JAMESON.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COUNTY OF ESSEX, s. s.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 28, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named James S. Jameson and made oath that all the statements by him subscribed are true before me.
(L. S.)

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 269.

GLOUCESTER, September 3, 1877.

I, James L. Anderson, Master of the American schr. *Seth Stockbridge*, of Gloucester, Mass., do, on oath, depose and say, that I was born in Middle Millford, Straits of Canso, am 37 years of age. I have been engaged in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery for 24 seasons.

I have just returned from a trip to the Gulf of St. Lawrence for mackerel.

I did not go there last year, as all the reports showed that there was no mackerel there.

In all my experience in taking mackerel in the Gulf, not more than one-fourth are taken within three miles of the shore. I have taken whole entire trips with not a single mackerel of them taken within five miles of the shore.

I have seined off the American shore parts of five years. I have stocked in a single season, seining mackerel there alone, reckoning no other fish, seven thousand six hundred dollars in a season.

The best stock I ever made in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery in one whole season, was six thousand seven hundred dollars. These figures are taken from my books, and are correct. My poorest stock in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery was in 1875, when I tried all over the Gulf, and could not raise a mackerel. Of course, I stocked nothing.

During the past 10 years, the American shore mackerel have been greatly superior to the Bay mackerel of the same brand in texture, quality, and price.

On the American shore, we take mackerel sometimes close in, and they are sometimes taken on Georges Banks 100 miles off.

I have been some trips to the Western Banks for cod-fish, and we bought our fresh bait of the shore people of the Dominion of Canada, always paying cash for it.

The people make more than double the profit selling herring to the American fishermen, than in any other manner that they can dispose of them. I have caught a whole trip on the Banks, entirely by the use of salt bait, carried from the United States.

Fish offal, when thrown overboard in very shoal water, has a tendency to keep fish away until the water clears; but in deep water, there is no perceptible effect on the fish. I never knew of the shore boats being interfered with, or injured by the vessels. The American schooners are very particular not to trouble the boats; and it is a universal fact that the schooners never can get any mackerel on the grounds inshore, in shoal water, where the boats usually fish. I never took 10 barrels of mackerel on the boat's fishing grounds in all my fishing in the Bay.

I have "hove to" this year near where the boats were fishing and getting some mackerel, and we could not catch a mackerel. In most of the places where the boats fish, my vessel could not go in, as they fish in from two to four fathoms of water, and my vessel draws 12 feet of water; and this fact applies to most of the American schooners.

I have been to Grand Manan for herring, to carry to Gloucester, to bait Georges men, and paid from 65 cents to one dollar per hundred for fresh herring, and the same herring for any other purpose or market was not worth to the people who took them 25 cents a hundred to salt. The shore people always catch the herring.

I have had but one trip of mackerel sent home from the Bay by transshipment, and that trip cost just one dollar per barrel to get them to Gloucester by a sailing vessel. This was in 1861.

I have been master of the following schooners:—The *Morning Light*, *Pescador*, *Ida Thurlow*, *Benj. Haskell*, *George S. Low*, *Seth Stockbridge*.

CAPT. JAMES L. ANDERSON.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

GLoucester, Aug. 4, 1877.

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

Then personally appeared the above named James L. Anderson, Captain, and made oath, that all the statements by him subscribed, are true, to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me.

(L. S.)

DAVID W. LOW, Notary Public.

No. 270.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 27, 1877.

I, Jesse Lewis, Master of the American schr. *Alice M. Lewis*, of Gloucester, on oath do depose and say, that I was born in Kittery, Maine, am 48 years age, and have been engaged in the fisheries 35 years. I have just arrived from the Gulf of St. Lawrence from a mackereling trip. I commenced to fit my vessel for this trip the 1st of July, 1877. I sailed from Gloucester the 5th of July, arrived in the Gulf of St. Lawrence about the 14th of July. Was fitted with a purse seine and boat, and one small seine. The first mackerel I took two miles off East Point, in the seine,—about 100 brls., mostly twos; from there went off Point Miscou and Gaspé; got no mackerel there; came back to Prince Edward Island; caught 50 brls. on the hook near the shore. We afterward went to the Magdalen Islands, and caught about 50 brls. on the hook, along the shore. The average of these mackerel were twos, worth 12 dollars per bbl. Our trip packed out 175 bbls., and brought 2,100 dollars.

My trip will consume just two months' time, for vessel and crew.

The charter of my vessel, at \$250 per month,	\$500 00
Wages of 15 men, at \$30 per month,	900 00
Outfits, viz., provisions, salt, barrels, etc.,	500 00
Insurance,	100 00
Packing,	131 25
Expense of seines, wear and mending and use,	200 00
Hooks and lines,	25 00

Total cost,	\$2,356 25
Total receipts,	\$2,100 00

Actual and real loss,	\$256 25
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I have been in the Bay 28 seasons,—24 mackereling and 4 codfishing. My average stock for the whole of the seasons in the Bay is \$4,500 a season. Not over one-third of the mackerel I have taken there were taken within three miles of the shore. We always throw overboard the cleanings of the mackerel, except what we save to use as throw-bait. The fish come eagerly after this offal. I never heard of any being poisoned by it; but they swarm to get it. I never heard any fishermen complain, as I have seen them this year, the British boats throwing all their offal overboard. This is the universal practice of all fishermen, American and English.

The practice of lee-bowing is universal, both by English and American vessels. I never knew of any British boats being injured by the American schooners. The American and British mode of fishing are entirely different, as the boat fishing is a shore fishery, and the large American schooners cannot, on account of the depth of water, fish where the boats generally resort. The boats obtain many favors from the American vessels, such as using their mills to grind bait, and often giving them salt and bait. The boat fishermen, as a class, have always been jealous of the American fishermen. I have this year given bait to a number of their boats. The years that our fishermen were totally excluded from the inshore mackerel fishing by the cutters, they made the best fares. That is my personal experience. I know of no inshore codfishery pursued by American vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. I never caught a codfish there inside of 15 miles from the shore, nor ever knew any American vessel so doing.

There are more British than American vessels engaged in the codfishery of the Gulf of St. Lawrence; they all throw their offal overboard, including the shore boats. I went to Newfoundland 19 years ago, for herring; have been 15 trips since. I never caught a herring there, but invariably bought them, and paid the inhabitants for them. When I first went there I paid one dollar per bbl.; they are now worth from \$1.50 to \$2. The American trade in herring has kept the people from starvation, and raised whole communities from poverty to comparative affluence. I have known \$60,000 to be paid for herring in Fortune Bay alone, by the American fleet, in one single winter, and there would have been none sold otherwise, as there is not any demand for these herring, except by Americans, for the American market. I think there are about 100 sail of Americans in the Bay this year. The average number of American vessels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence the past 20 years is not over 250 vessels, taking one year with another. Out of the fleet this year there is not over a dozen that have taken as many mackerel as I have, and a large proportion of the fleet are leaving the Bay entirely discouraged. The *Wm. S. Baker* has arrived in Gloucester, within two hours, from the Bay of St. Lawrence with only five barrels of mackerel.

I have been master of the schooners *Susan E. Brown*, *Hattie Lewis*, *Ida May*, *Two Forty*, *Theron F. Dale*, *Alice M. Lewis*.

JESSE LEWIS.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 27, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Jesse Lewis, and made oath, that all the above statements by him subscribed, are true to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me.

DAVID W. LOW.

Notary Public.

(L. S.)

No. 271.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 3, 1877.

I, Samuel M. Farmer, master of the schooner *Maud Muller*, of Gloucester, on oath do depose and say, that I was born in Booth Bay, Me. I have just returned from a trip to the coast of Maine. I have been absent five weeks. I brought home 230 barrels of mackerel, making 40 barrels No. 1's and 190 barrels No. 2's. The No. 1's are worth \$24 per barrel, the No. 2's are worth \$15 per barrel. My whole trip is worth \$3,810.

The charter of my vessel is worth \$100 per month .	\$125 00
Thirteen men	390 00
Bait	30 00
Outfits	150 00
Insurance	50 00
Packing and Inspection	172 00
Use of Seine and Boat	75 00

Cost of trip	\$992 00
Receipts 230 barrels mackerel	3,810 00

Profit \$2,818 00

My vessel is only 45 tons. She took these mackerel 8 miles from Mount Desert Rock. The mackerel are schooling in every direction

there. I am going back immediately. I think the prospect is good for a large Fall catch on our shores. I have been in the Bay of St. Lawrence three seasons for mackerel, in 1868, 1869, 1870—three years. 1870 I made \$66 for the season, the two years previous we shared \$270, each man for 5 months fishing. These were extra good years in the Bay.

Of all the mackerel we took during the three years amounting to nearly 1,800 barrels, only 90 wash barrels were taken on Sudick shoals within three miles of the shore.

I have on the American shore made \$500 to a share in a season, the least I ever made on this shore mackereling was \$400, a season of five months. The Bay mackerel fishery for this and the two last years has been an entire failure. I have been to Grand Manan one Winter for herring. I bought my herring of the people on shore, paying cash for them. I paid from 60 to 90 cents per hundred. There is no market, and no use to which these herring can be put that will begin to pay the people the amount of profit that this sale to American vessels produces. I have also been to the Western Banks fishing for cod. We took one baiting at New Brunswick and one at Cape Breton, paying 50 cents per hundred at New Brunswick, and \$1 per barrel at Cape Breton in cash. At Cape Breton the herring remaining on hand were thrown overboard after we were baited, as there was no vessels there to take them, they were worthless for any purpose for which the people could use them.

SAMUEL M. FARMER.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

GLOUCESTER, Sept. 3d, 1877.

COUNTY OF ESSEX, SS.

Then personally appeared the above-named Samuel M. Farmer, and made oath that all the above statements by him subscribed, are true to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me,

DAVID W. LOW, *Notary*

No. 272.

I, Alexander McDonald, of Provincetown, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn, do depose and say that I am thirty years of age and am the captain of the schooner *Willie A. Jowell*, engaged in fishing for cod upon the Grand Banks and I have returned with one thousand quintals of fish—all taken on trawls. I have been trawling for cod for nine years and until this year have always used salt clams for bait which I carried from home. This year I went to Newfoundland to purchase fresh bait for the first time. I arrived at the Bay of Bulls about the eighteenth day of July to get fresh bait, with seven hundred quintals on board, taken previously with salt clams and squid caught on the Banks. I found no bait at Bay of Bulls and left for Cape Royal finding no bait there either. Then went to Portugal Cove, Conception Bay, where I had to wait five days before I could purchase any bait at all. I then returned to the Banks with twenty barrels of squid for which I paid about thirty cents per hundred, having been absent from the fishing grounds about two weeks. I caught one hundred quintals with the squid I had purchased at Newfoundland, the remainder of the trip I caught with salt bait at Newfoundland, and if I had not wasted so much time in going to Newfoundland after fresh bait I should have caught

more fish on the Banks and have come home earlier. I have never fished for bait at Newfoundland but have always purchased it and if excluded from purchasing I certainly should not go to Newfoundland to catch it myself. I consider the trade in bait to be of great advantage to the inhabitants of Newfoundland. While at Portugal Cove I paid William Talk, the collector, sixteen 80-100 dollars (\$16.80) for light dues, being at the rate of twenty-four cents per ton, and this due is collected from all American fishing vessels visiting Newfoundland.

ALEX. McDONALD.

Sworn before me at Halifax, this 29th day of September, A. D. 1877.

N. H. MEAGHER,

Notary Public for the Province of Nova Scotia.

No. 273.

I, Alonzo Covey, of Swampscott, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn, do depose and say that I am fifty-three years old, and am the captain of the *A. C. Newhall*, a fishing vessel of twenty-nine (29) tons, at present in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I have been engaged in the fishing business, both as captain and hand, for twenty-five years. I have just returned from a trip to the Bay of St. Lawrence, mackerel fishing. I left Swampscott the 28th day of last July, and arrived in the Bay the 7th of August. I first fished near Port Hood, and took four barrels of mackerel six miles from the shore. I then took twenty-five barrels twelve miles broad off Mimmigash. Then fished off Skinneack from 5 to 15 miles from the land, and took the balance of my trip there, with the exception of 14 barrels, which were taken between East Cape and Port Hood. I took one hundred and twenty-five barrels in the Bay, all of which were taken more than three miles from land, except five barrels at North Cape taken inshore. This trip has not been successful. The share of the vessel will not more than pay the cost of the outfit. Before this season I have been engaged in fishing on the United States coast, and my trips there have been much more remunerative than my present trip to the Bay. I do not consider the privilege of fishing within three miles of the Canadian coast of any value to American fishermen, and I should much prefer to be entirely excluded therefrom, and the former duty of two dollars per barrel to be imposed on the Canadian fish.

ALONZO COVEY.

Sworn before me in the City of Halifax, in the County of Halifax, this 29th day of September, A. D., 1877.

ROBT. SEDGEWICK,

Notary Public.

No. 274.

I, Edward N. Wilkins, of Swampscott, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn, do depose and say that I am forty-two years old. I have been a fisherman for twenty-five years, and am now one of the crew of the schooner *A. C. Newhall*, Captain Covey, and have just returned from the Bay of St. Lawrence. We caught 125 barrels of mackerel, all of which were taken more than three miles from the shore with the exception of five barrels taken inshore between North Cape and Mimmigash, Prince Edward Island. Previous to this year I have been in the Bay mackerel fishing twelve seasons, the last trip was in

1873 in the schooner *Knight Templar*, of Gloucester, we took 450 barrels of mackerel, all of which were taken more than 3 miles from the shore except about 50 barrels taken inshore near Rustico. In all my trips to the Bay I do not think that one-fifth of all the mackerel taken were caught within three miles of the shore.

EDWARD N. WILKINS.

Sworn before me, at the City of Halifax, in the County of Halifax, this 29th day of September, A. D. 1877.

ROBT. SEDGEWICK, *Notary Public*.

No. 275.

I, John S. Staples, of Swans Island, Maine, on oath depose and say that I am master of the schr. *John Somes*, of Portland, Me., and have been engaged in catching mackerel during this season, commenced by fishing off the American shore, and caught 450 barrels which averaged \$10 per barrel. The favorable reports from Canso induced me to go down the Bay of St. Lawrence and I accordingly sailed about the 25th of July. I was on the trip a little over a month, tried for mackerel all the way from Port Hood to New London Head, and from there to Magdalene Islands and from there to Margaree Island, and succeeded in getting only eleven barrels which are worth \$8 per barrel. I lost on this trip to the Bay \$1500, at the least calculation. At Canso I was visited by the officer who exacted one dollar from me for the support of buoys—this is collected of all American vessels. I arrived home from the Bay about the 3rd Sept. and since that time I have caught 150 barrels of mackerel on this shore, which are worth \$1400. In year 1872 I was master of schr. *Joseph Story*, of Gloucester, was in the Bay mackereling and caught 250 barrels, not over 10 barrels of which were caught within three miles of the shore. In the year 1873 I was captain of the same schooner and fished for mackerel off the American shore and took 900 barrels, from which we stocked \$8,000. In 1874 I was in the said schooner up to July 25th, when I left her on account of sickness, up to that time we took 650 barrels, from which we stocked \$3,500 all this year the said schooner fished on the American shore. After I left her the said schooner took 600 barrels. In 1875 I was in schooner *Rushlight* and fished for mackerel on the American coast, and took during the season 900 barrels and stocked about \$7,000. In 1876 (last year) I was in the schooner *John Somes*, and fished for mackerel the whole season on the American shore and took 1,600 barrels and stocked \$9,500. I would state that previous to the years enumerated above, I was in the Bay mackereling for 15 years and am confident that not one-twentieth part of the mackerel caught were caught within the three-mile limit. I consider and regard the mackerel fishery on the American shore as far more superior and valuable than the British Bay fishery.

In the Winter of 1870 I was in the schooner *Annie E. Friend*, and went to Grand Manan for cargo of frozen herring, and bought 300,000 at the rate of 45 cents per 100. There was at the time 20 sail of vessels there after herring, all of which loaded with herring and bought them of the inhabitants—they carrying all the way from 150,000 to 400,000, at from 40 to 60 cents per 100. This trade with the American is of great importance to the inhabitants, as they would undoubtedly suffer were it not for this trade as they get a great deal of money from this source, which is all clear gain to them, as they have no other market for their herring.

JOHN S. STAPLES,
Master of Schooner John Somes.

CUSTOM HOUSE, GLOUCESTER, Oct. 4, 1877.

Personally appeared Capt. John S. Staples, who subscribed to the foregoing statement, and made oath that the foregoing statement was true, before me.

ADDISON CARTER,

Special Deputy Collector and Justice of the Peace.

No. 276.

GLOUCESTER, August 25, 1877.

I, Daniel McNeil, on oath depose and say, that I was born on Cape Breton; am 34 years of age; have been engaged in the fisheries for 21 years, principally in the Bank fishing on Grand Bank, Western and Quero; have been master for five years; am now master of the schooner *Eben Parsons*, of Gloucester. Arrived from the Grand Banks this week. Have always bought my bait of the inhabitants of Newfoundland. I paid \$80 for my bait on the last trip, and I did not get a full baiting. I have never fished for bait at Newfoundland, neither have I ever known any of the American fishermen to do so at Newfoundland,—always invariably buying what they needed,—and, in fact, if they wished to catch their bait they could not, for they are fitted with no appliances for the purpose. The inhabitants of Newfoundland are very anxious for this trade, always coming on board, even before I can come to anchor, soliciting the sale of this bait; and though the American fishermen pay the highest price for their bait, ice and supplies, still I regard it as cheaper to do so. This bait supply to the fishermen furnishes occupation to a large part of the inhabitants, and is quite lucrative to those engaged in it. This trade has been patronized by the Americans (engaged in the Bank fishery) very generally for the last seven years. Previous to that time, it was the custom to catch our bait on the Banks. Fish-peas, fish cut up, birds and squid constituted our bait. The inhabitants of Newfoundland find the only market for their bait in the French and American Bank fleet. I regard this traffic of vastly more importance to the inhabitants of Newfoundland than to the American fishermen, as we could procure our bait, as heretofore, on the Banks. I have seen 20 sail of American vessels in a small cove at Newfoundland for bait, which they uniformly purchased. If prevented from purchasing bait at Newfoundland, the Americans could procure this bait at the French Islands, where the French fleet of Bankers get their bait and supplies.

DANIEL MCNEIL.

GLOUCESTER, Aug. 25, 1877.

Sworn to and subscribed before me,

ADDISON CARTER,

Justice of the Peace.

No. 277.

I, Charles E. Parkhurst, of Gloucester, in the State of Massachusetts, book-keeper, on oath depose and say, that schooner *Energy* was built and owned by my father, Charles Parkhurst, and run by him in the fishing business until she was sold to go to California. That in 1868 she was engaged in the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery; that she sailed July 18th, and returned Nov. 14th, 1868; was absent three months and twenty-six days, making but one voyage. She brought home and packed out one hundred and thirty-three (133) barrels of mackerel,

which was all her catch for that season. The vessel's share was \$1,085. That James Howlett was one of the crew of said vessel on said voyage, which was the only voyage he made in her after mackerel. That his share of said voyage was eighty-seven dollars and 71-100, which was trusted and paid to Lawyer Perrin.

CHARLES E. PARKHURST.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, }

ESSEX, S. S., }

Sept. 21st, 1877. }

Then personally appeared the above named Charles E. Parkhurst and made oath that the above statement, by him subscribed, is true, before me,

DAVID W. LOW,
Notary Public.

No. 278.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

ESSEX, SS.

I, Zebulon Tarr, of Gloucester, in said County of Essex, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that I have been engaged in the herring business somewhat extensively in the Province of New Brunswick, in the harbors of Deer Isle, St. Andrew's, Blies Island, and other harbors at which herring are to be bought or obtained. Within the last ten years I have bought fifteen trips of herring, averaging two hundred and twenty thousand each, at a cost of four dollars and fifty cents a thousand, amounting to fourteen thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars. Two trips, three hundred thousand each, at five dollars a thousand, amounting to three thousand dollars.

Witness my hand, this seventeenth day of October, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and seventy-seven.

ZEBULON TARR.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

ESSEX, SS.

ROCKPORT, October 17th, 1877.

Then personally appeared the above named Zebulon Tarr, and made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing statement by him subscribed, before me,

NATHANIEL F. S. YORK,
Justice of the Peace.

No. 279.

We have been asked to make a statement of the number of barrels of herring caught in American waters on the coast of the United States, and the number of barrels of herring caught in Foreign waters during the last year handled by us, and to state the relative value of each barrel in its green state as it is when taken from the water.

We find upon examination of our books that we have taken in our business during the last year (28,208) twenty-eight thousand two hundred and eight barrels of herring.

(16,063) sixteen thousand and sixty-three barrels were caught on the coast of the United States, between Eastport, Maine, and Provincetown, Massachusetts.

The herring cost us for those caught on the coast of the United States from two dollars and twenty-five cents to two dollars and seventy-five cents per barrel; that is for the herring, not including the barrel, salt, labor, etc., etc.

(12,145) twelve thousand one hundred and forty-five barrels were caught on the coast of Newfoundland, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Magdalen Islands, and Labrador, as follows:—

	Barrels.	
Caught at Fortune Bay, Nfld.....	8,587	} 12,145
“ “ Port Hood, C. B.....	200	
“ “ Nova Scotia (coast).....	348	
“ “ Magdalens.....	510	
“ “ Bay of Islands, Nfld.....	2,500	

Those caught at Fortune Bay in-paid seventy-five cents, gold, per barrel; at Port Hood, one dollar per barrel; Nova Scotia, one dollar per barrel; Magdalens, seventy-five cents per barrel; and at Bay of Islands, Nfld., two dollars per barrel. These prices include what is paid for the fish, and does not include the barrels, salt, labor, etc., etc.

All the herring which we put up in the Provinces as stated herein, we bought from the fishermen and paid them at prices as stated; and in no case whatever did we ever catch any in nets or seines, but always purchased the fish from the natives.

The above number of barrels does not include any herring which our vessels brought in the Provinces during the year, for bait.

We have taken from our books the number of barrels packed.

GLOUCESTER, MASS., U. S. A., October 17th, 1877.

D. C. & H. BABSON.

WITNESS—CHAS. H. BROWN.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

October 17th, 1877.

ESSEX, SS.

Then personally appeared the within named Horatio Babson, and made oath to the truth of the within statement by him subscribed, in behalf of said firm of D. C. & H. Babson, before me.

Witness my hand and official seal the day and year last above written.

[L. S.]

JAMES DAVIS,
Notary Public.

No. 280.

William Cogswell, of Salem, County of Essex, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on oath, deposes and says, that since August 24th, A. D., 1866, he has held, and does now, hold the office of Inspector-General of Fish, within and for the said Commonwealth; the duties of which said office, among other things, are to supervise, either personally or by deputy, the packing and inspecting of all pickled fish put up within said Commonwealth, to keep an accurate account of the same, and to report thereon in detail, as to the number of barrels, the quality and kind of such fish, to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, that he is under bonds to the Treasurer of the said Commonwealth, in the sum of ten thousand dollars; that in the discharge of his duties, he is assisted by some one hundred deputies, more or less, in the different seaport towns of said Commonwealth, each of whom

are under bonds to him in the sum of six thousand dollars; that he has given especial attention to informing himself from all possible sources of information, in what waters, and what coasts the fish, which has passed under his supervision since he came into his said office, were caught; that he has also required and received sworn returns or affidavits from a large number of his deputies, many of whom are owners of the fishing vessels; many of whom have been engaged in the fishing itself, and all of whom have as accurate knowledge on the subject as is possible to be obtained, showing the number of barrels of fish caught within the three mile line of the coast of Her Britannic Majesty's Dominions in North America, during the fishing seasons of 1867 and 1876, inclusive, upon which said returns or affidavits, and upon his own best knowledge and belief, and upon his own reports as aforesaid, he says as follows:—That in the year ending December 20th, 1867, there were inspected in said Commonwealth, two hundred and eleven thousand five hundred and ten barrels of mackerel, and no more; that he has affidavits as aforesaid, covering some ninety-seven thousand barrels of said mackerel, of which only some two thousand were caught within said three mile line, or in other words, about two and one-sixteenth per cent., which applied to the whole catch of that year, would give some forty-three hundred and sixty barrels of mackerel only that were caught within said line, in said year of 1867.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1868, there were inspected in said Commonwealth, one hundred and eighty thousand and fifty-six barrels of mackerel and no more. That of this number he has affidavits as aforesaid covering some one hundred and two thousand barrels of said mackerel and no more of which only some sixteen hundred barrels were caught within said three mile line, or in other words some one and one-half per cent. which applied to the whole catch of that year would give some twenty-seven hundred barrels of mackerel only that were caught within said three mile line in said year of 1868.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1869, there were inspected in said Commonwealth, two hundred and thirty-four thousand two hundred barrels of mackerel and no more, and that of this number he has affidavits as aforesaid covering some one hundred and thirty-two thousand barrels and no more of said mackerel, of which only eighteen hundred barrels were caught within said three-mile line, or in other words some one and one-third per cent. which applied to the whole catch of that year, would give some thirty-one hundred barrels of mackerel only that were caught within said three-mile line in said year of 1869.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1870, there were inspected in said Commonwealth three hundred and eighteen thousand five hundred and twenty-one barrels of mackerel and no more, and that of this number he has affidavits as aforesaid, covering some one hundred and ninety-eight thousand barrels and no more of said mackerel, of which only some twenty-five hundred barrels were caught within said three mile line, or in other words some one and one-eight per cent. which applied to the whole catch of that year would give some thirty-five hundred barrels of mackerel only that were caught within said three mile line in said year of 1870.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1871, there were inspected in said Commonwealth, two hundred and fifty-nine thousand, four hundred and sixteen barrels and no more, of mackerel, and that of this number he has affidavits as aforesaid, covering some one hundred and eighty-five thousand barrels and no more of said mackerel, of which only some eighteen hundred barrels were caught within said three mile line, or in

other words some one per cent., which applied to the whole catch of that year, would give some twenty-five hundred barrels mackerel, only that were caught within said three-mile line in said year of 1871.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1872, there were inspected in this Commonwealth one hundred and eighty one-thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven barrels of mackerel, and no more; and that of this number he has affidavits as aforesaid, covering some one hundred and twenty-eight thousand barrels, and no more, of said mackerel,—of which only some sixteen hundred barrels were caught within said three-mile line, or, in other words, some one and one-sixth per cent., which applied to the whole catch of that year, would give some two thousand one hundred and twenty-three barrels of mackerel only that were caught within said three-mile line in said year of 1872.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1873, there were inspected in said Commonwealth, one hundred eighty-five thousand seven hundred and forty-eight barrels of mackerel, and no more; and that of this number he has affidavits as aforesaid, covering some one hundred and forty-one thousand barrels, and no more, of said mackerel, of which only some twenty-four hundred barrels were caught within said three-mile line,—or, in other words, some one and three-eighths per cent.,—which, applied to the whole catch of that year, would give some twenty-eight hundred barrels of mackerel only that were caught within said three mile line in said year of 1873.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1874, there were inspected in said Commonwealth, two hundred and fifty-eight thousand three hundred and eighty barrels of mackerel, and no more; and that of this number he has affidavits as aforesaid, covering some one hundred and eighty-four thousand barrels, and no more, of said mackerel, of which only some eight hundred barrels were caught within said three-mile line,—or, in other words, some three-sixteenths of one per cent.,—which, applied to the whole catch of that year, would give some eleven hundred barrels of mackerel only that were caught within said three-mile line in said year of 1874.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1875, there were inspected in said Commonwealth, one hundred and thirty thousand and fourteen barrels of mackerel, and no more; and that he has affidavits covering some ninety thousand barrels, and no more, of said mackerel, of which only some three hundred barrels were caught within said three-mile line, or in other words, some one-third of one per cent., which applied to the whole catch of that year, would give some four hundred and thirty-three barrels of mackerel only that were caught within the said three-mile line in said year of 1875.

That in the year ending December 20th, 1876, there were inspected in said Commonwealth, two hundred and twenty-five thousand nine hundred and forty-one barrels of mackerel, and no more; and that he has affidavits as aforesaid, covering some one hundred and ninety thousand barrels, and no more of said mackerel, of which only some three hundred barrels were caught within said three mile line, or in other words, some one-sixth of one per cent., which, applied to the whole catch of that year, would give some three hundred and seventy-six barrels of mackerel only that were caught within said three mile line in said year of 1876. And said deponent doth further depose and say, upon his best judgment, information and belief, that of the whole number of barrels of mackerel inspected in said Commonwealth, from 1867 to 1876, inclusive, amounting to nearly two million two hundred thousand barrels, not more than some twenty-three thousand barrels were caught within

the said three mile line. That of the whole number of barrels of mackerel inspected in said Commonwealth from 1873 to 1876, inclusive, amounting to some eight hundred thousand barrels, not more than some forty-seven hundred and nine barrels were caught within said three mile line. And that for the last four or five years preceding the date hereof, the catch of mackerel within said three mile line, and off the coasts, or in the Bays along the coasts of Her Britannic Majesty's Dominion in North America has been rapidly decreasing, the catch within the three mile line as aforesaid, decreasing from twenty-eight hundred barrels in 1873 to eleven hundred barrels in 1874, to four hundred and thirty-three barrels in 1875, to three hundred and seventy-six barrels in 1876. That from his own personal knowledge, the fishing firms of said Commonwealth, during the last four or five years as aforesaid, have substantially given up as of but little or no profit what is known as the "Bay fishing," and have confined their fishing vessels substantially to the shores, bays, and coasts within the jurisdiction of the United States of America.

Witness my hand, at Boston, County of Suffolk, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, this —— day of August, A. D., 1877.

WM. COGSWELL,

Inspector-General of Fish for Massachusetts.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, SUFFOLK, S. S.

This may certify that William Cogswell, of Salem, County of Essex and Commonwealth aforesaid, has held the office of Inspector General of fish within and for this Commonwealth since Aug. 24, A. D. 1866, and does now hold the said office, and that on this twentieth day of August, 1877, said Cogswell personally appeared before me and made oath that the foregoing statement by him subscribed was true, according to his best judgement, information and belief. Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the year and date above written.

(L. S.)

HENRY B. PEIRCE,

Secretary of the Commonwealth.

APPENDIX N.

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (NEW-
FOUNDLAND) JULY 7TH, 1871.

[COPY.]

NEWFOUNDLAND, }
No. 28. }

DOWNING STREET, 17th June, 1871.

SIR:—I have the honor to enclose herewith copies of the Treaty signed at Washington on May 8th by the Joint High Commissioners, which has been ratified by Her Majesty and by the President of the United States; of the Instructions to Her Majesty's High Commissioners and Protocols of the Conferences held by the Commission; of two notes which have passed between Sir E. Thornton and Mr. Fish; and of a despatch of even date, herewith, which I have addressed to the Governor-General of Canada, stating the views of Her Majesty's Government on these important documents.

With reference to that part of my Despatch to Lord Lisgar, which bears upon the proposed arrangement for the immediate provisional admission of the United States fishermen to the Colonial Fisheries, I have to observe that Her Majesty's Government are aware that under this Treaty, as under the Convention of 1854, Newfoundland is placed in a somewhat different position to that of the other Colonies interested, but they would strongly urge upon the Government of Newfoundland, that it is most desirable for the general interest of the Empire that the same course should be pursued as in 1854, and that the application made by the United States Government should be acceded to by Newfoundland, so that American fishermen may be at once allowed, during the present season, the provisional use of the privileges granted to them by the Treaty.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

Governor HILL, C. B., &c.

KIMBERLEY.

In compliance with the request made by the Right Hon. Earl Kimberley, in his despatch of 17th June ultimo, to His Excellency the Governor, it is agreed to accede thereto.

Correct copy.
(Signed)

G. D. SHEA,
Clerk Ex. Council.



STATISTICS PRODUCED ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES.

Statistical Documents relating to the Fisheries and Trade in Fish between the United States and British North America.

Table showing the importations into the United States of fish of all kinds from all countries

	Fresh for daily use.	Free.	Dutiable.	Total.
1869.....	.....	.....	1,973,170	1,973,170
1870.....	.....	.....	2,316,453	2,316,453
1871.....	.....	.....	2,503,924	2,503,924
1872.....	242,429	.....	1,907,688	2,150,117
1873.....	278,921	.....	2,806,336	3,085,257
1874.....	294,837	1,536,390	1,377,300	3,208,527
1875.....	351,889	1,801,217	855,509	3,008,615
1876.....	271,597	1,503,121	878,530	2,653,248

Imports of fish and products of fish into the United States from British North America.

1867.....	\$2, 044, 620
1868.....	989, 344
1869.....	1, 505, 299
1870.....	1, 398, 505
1871.....	1, 383, 965
1872.....	1, 400, 173
1873.....	1, 690, 617
1874.....	2, 104, 134
1875.....	2, 348, 641
1876.....	*1, 862, 797
1877, 9 months, to March 31.....	1, 292, 616

*The imports into the United States from British North America in 1876 appear to have been equal to one-third of the total exports from British North America for that year, which are officially reported as \$5,501,221.

Imports of fish into the United States from British North America.

	Dominion of Canada.			Other British Possessions in B. N. A.			
	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.	Total B. N. A.
1869	1,003,904		1,003,904	113,853		113,853	1,117,757
1870	1,003,561		1,003,561	135,846		135,846	1,139,407
1871	994,137		994,137	207,038		207,038	1,201,175
1872	679,825	220,983	900,808	340,256	21,446	361,702	1,262,510
1873	1,108,366	258,278	1,366,644	232,348	20,429	252,777	1,619,421
1874	32,714	1,812,188	1,844,902	70,611	18,790	89,401	1,934,303
1875	8,895	1,897,691	1,906,586	6,878	254,123	261,001	2,167,587
1876	5,478	1,605,244	1,610,722	46	167,725	167,771	1,778,493
1877							1,213,049
9 mos. to Mar. 31							

IV.

FISH OF ALL KINDS.

Importations into the United States from British North America.

	Dutiable value.	Duty.	Duty saved.
1845 to 1854. For the ten fiscal years before reciprocity.			
Annual average.....	\$570,500 00	\$113,128 37	
1855 to 1866. During reciprocity. Annual average.....	1,462,875 36		
1866 to 1872. For the six fiscal years after reciprocity.			
Annual average.....	1,170,650 00	277,943 87	
1873 (fresh, 278,707).....	1,340,714 00	331,943 00	
1874 (" 294,815).....	1,639,488 00		\$335,181 00
1875 (" 351,889).....	1,815,698 00		353,200 00
1876 (" 271,597).....	1,506,896 00		332,421 00

V.

MACKEREL AND HERRING.—I.

Quantity and value entering into annual consumption in the United States.

	Mackerel.		Herring.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
1868.....	30,686 bbls.	\$289,175	61,451 bbls.	\$288,223
1869.....	27,468 "	306,695	91,567 "	425,212
1870.....	28,480 "	291,527	87,283 "	398,595
1871.....	28,487 "	309,074	62,022 "	356,759
1872.....	39,572 "	247,701	62,474 "	332,706
1873.....	70,651 "	523,577	63,497 "	352,235
1874.....	90,872 "	807,089	82,826 " }	462,669
			205,819 boxes }	
1875.....	78,132 "	587,349	98,190 bbls. }	580,196
			309,549 boxes }	
1876.....	76,599 "	695,917	107,319 bbls. }	550,722
			307,190 boxes }	

VI.

MACKEREL AND HERRING.—II.

Annual importation into the United States.

	Mackerel.		Herring.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
1872.....	79,227 bbls.	\$449,624	78,217 bbls.	384,935
1873.....	90,889 "	610,457	68,692 "	359,262
1874.....	89,693 "	802,470	82,551 "	434,565
1875.....	77,538 "	584,836	92,344 "	515,084
1876.....	76,538 "	695,460	104,812 "	493,090

VII.

MACKEREL AND HERRING.—III.

Annual importation into the United States from British North America.

	Mackerel.		Herring.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
1872.....	77,731 bbls.	\$438,410	64,200 bbls.	\$225,144
1873.....	89,698 "	605,778	53,039 "	179,377
1874.....	89,693 "	802,470	63,931 "	229,522
1875.....	77,488 "	584,353	72,167 "	295,924
1876.....	76,538 "	695,460	87,773 "	307,384
1877.....	37,190 "	336,582	53,306 "	186,955
Nine months to March 31.....				

VIII.

MACKEREL.

Imports into the United States from British North America.

	Value.	Duty.	Duty saved.
1848 to 1854. For the seven fiscal years before reciprocity, annual average.....	\$429,898 28	\$85,979 65	.....
1855 to 1866. During reciprocity. Annual average.....			
After reciprocity.			
1867.....	675,986 00	155,006 00	.....
1868.....	364,429 00	83,310 00	.....
1872.....	438,410 00	155,462 00	.....
1873.....	605,778 00	179,396 00	.....
Annual average.....	521,151 00	143,294 00	.....
1874. Bbls. 89,693.....	802,470 00		\$179,386 00
1875. " 77,488.....	584,353 00		154,976 00
1876. " 76,538.....	695,460 00		153,076 00
Annual average.....	694,094 00		\$162,479 00

IX.

Mackerel imports into the Port of Boston from British North America.

Canada.			Newfoundland.			Prince Edward Island.			Total.	
Value.	Duty.	Duty saved (estimated.)	Value.	Duty.	Duty saved (estimated.)	Value.	Duty.	Duty saved (estimated.)	Value.	Duty.
1845 to 1855.....	\$410, 173 31		\$6, 841 56	\$1, 308 31						
1847 to 1855.....										
1840 to 1855.....			25, 079 00							
1850 to 1866 free			9, 901 00	2, 633 00		\$22, 218 98	\$4, 443 69			
1866 to 1872.....	267, 269 24					361, 295 00				
1873.....	29, 840 00					422, 522 00	104, 803 50			
1873..... free										
1874.....										
1874..... " "										
1875.....										
1876.....										
1877.....										
1878.....										
1875..... free			56 00	9 00						
1873.....			14, 213 00		3, 700 00					
1873.....						1, 926 00	261 00			
1873..... free						85, 380 00				
1874.....						251, 403 00		143, 000 00		
1874..... " "						181, 219 00				
1875.....						83, 812 00				
1876.....										
1876.....										
\$7, 475, 707 74	\$707, 222 55	\$252, 500 00	\$56, 060 56	\$4, 010 31	\$3, 700 00	\$1, 400, 975 98	\$109, 508 19	\$143, 000 00	\$4, 041, 804 28	\$399, 200 00

ANNUAL AVERAGES.

1845 to 1855	\$205,766 57	1847 to 1855	\$855 00	1849 to 1855	\$3,703 00
1855 to 1866	272,821 00	1855 to 1866	2,280 00	1855 to 1866	32,845 00
1866 to 1872	177,366 00	1866 to 1872	1,050 00	1866 to 1872	70,420 00
1873 to 1876	265,487 00	1875	14,913 00	1873 to 1876	150,504 00

X.

STATEMENT OF DUTY SAVED ON FISH OILS IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM
BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

	Dutiable Value.	Duty Saved.
1874	\$91,944	
1875	147,485	
1876	72,438	
	<u>\$311,867</u> — 20 per cent.,	<u>\$62,373 40</u>
Annual average		\$20,791 13

XI.

PORT OF BOSTON.

*Importation of fish of all kinds from British North America during the calendar years 1845
to 1876.*

	Value.	Duty.
1845 to 1855. For ten years prior to the reciprocity treaty, fraction of year deducted. Annual average	\$333,932 14	\$67,533 31
Smallest year, 1846	127,642 82	33,436 07
Largest year, 1854	609,270 00	123,383 60
1855 to 1866. During reciprocity. Annual average	853,914 62	
1866 to 1875. For nine years after the termination of treaty, fraction of year deducted. Annual average	796,732 55	101,066 72
For the year 1876	654,366 00	

XII.

PORT OF BOSTON.

Importation of fish-oil from British North America during the calendar years 1845 to 1876.

	Value.	Duty.
1845 to 1855. For ten years prior to the reciprocity treaty, fraction of year deducted. Annual average	\$40,686 95	\$8,152 72
Smallest year, 1845	551 00	82 65
Largest year, 1852	242,981 00	48,596 20
Annual average, omitting 1852	18,209 83	3,659 01
1855 to 1866. During reciprocity. Annual average	138,273 36	
1866 to 1875. For nine years after the termination of treaty, fraction of year deducted. Annual average	110,014 00	17,468 21
For the year 1876	46,811 00	

XIII.

Export of fish from the United States to British North America.

	Domestic.	Foreign.	Total.
1867	\$51,789	\$17,379	\$69,168
1868	20,387	11,944	32,331
1869	23,353	17,218	40,571
1870	47,602	39,764	87,366
1871	38,077	86,006	124,083
1872	31,043	37,050	68,093
1873	13,672	66,053	79,725
1874	32,089	51,736	83,825
1875	41,740	25,131	66,871
1876	150,251	24,648	174,899
1877, 9 mos. to Mch. 31	120,235	1,020	121,264
			<u>\$948,196</u>
Add for difference in returns in 1870			92
			<u>\$948,288</u>
Deduct for difference in returns in 1875			3
			<u>\$948,285</u>

XIV.

Exports of fish from the United States to the Dominion of Canada and to the other provinces of B. N. America.

	Canada.			Other provinces, B. N. A.			Total.
	Foreign.	Domestic.	Total.	Foreign.	Domestic.	Total.	
1867.....							\$69, 168
1868.....							32, 331
1869.....	16, 311	19, 999	36, 310	907	3, 354	4, 261	40, 571
1870.....	38, 288	41, 423	79, 711	1, 476	6, 271	7, 747	87, 458
1871.....	84, 821	33, 564	118, 385	1, 185	4, 513	5, 698	124, 083
1872.....	34, 499	20, 467	54, 966	2, 551	10, 576	13, 127	68, 093
1873.....	63, 527	6, 452	69, 979	2, 526	7, 220	9, 746	79, 725
1874.....	48, 847	30, 286	79, 133	2, 889	1, 803	4, 692	83, 825
1875.....	18, 897	36, 591	55, 488	6, 231	5, 149	11, 380	66, 868
1876.....	24, 074	142, 901	166, 975	574	7, 350	7, 924	174, 899
1877, 9 months to March 31.....							121, 264
							\$948, 285

XV.

PRODUCT OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES EXCEPT THE WHALE.

1870.....	5, 313, 967
1871.....	11, 482, 410
1872.....	9, 526, 647
1873.....	8, 348, 185
1874.....	9, 522, 553
1875.....	10, 747, 579
1876.....	10, 545, 871
Annual Average.....	9, 355, 316

XVI.

YIELD AND VALUE OF THE CANADIAN FISHERIES.

The following figures are taken from the annual reports of the Canadian Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

1870.....	Estimate.....	\$7, 000, 000
1871.....	do.*.....	8, 000, 000
1872.....	Return.....	9, 570, 116
1873.....	do.....	10, 754, 988
1874.....	do.....	11, 681, 886
1875.....	do.....	10, 347, 886
1876.....	do.....	11, 019, 451

* See report for 1871, page 60.

XVII.

Exports of fish from British North America.

	Total ex- ports.	To the United States.
1870.....	\$3, 608, 549	
1871.....	3, 994, 275	
1872.....	4, 348, 508	
1873.....	4, 779, 277	
1874.....	5, 292, 368	\$1, 616, 663
1875.....	5, 380, 527	1, 641, 828
1876.....	5, 501, 221	1, 475, 330
MACKEREL.		
1875, six months, ended Dec. 31.....	475, 220	405, 638

XVIII.

Table showing the statistics of the manufacture of menhaden oil and guano in the United States in the years 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876.

	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.
No. of factories in operation	62	64	60	64
No. of sail-vessels employed.....	383	283	304	320
No. of steam-vessels ".....	20	25	39	46
No. of men employed in fisheries.....	1,009	871		
No. of men employed in factories.....	1,197	1,567		
Total number of men employed.....	2,306	2,438	2,633	2,758
Amount of capital invested.....	\$2,388,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,650,000	\$2,750,000
No. of fish taken.....	397,700,000	492,878,000	563,327,000	512,450,000
" " " (estimated in barrels).....	1,193,100	1,478,634	1,887,767	1,535,885
No. of gallons of oil made.....	2,214,800	3,372,837	2,681,467	2,992,000
No. of tons of guano made.....	36,299	50,976	53,625	51,245
No. of gallons of oil held by manufacturers at the end of the year.....	484,520	648,000	125,000	264,000
No. of tons of guano held by manufacturers at the end of the year.....	2,700	5,200	1,850	7,275
Value of oil at 37c.....	\$819,476	\$1,247,950	\$992,140	\$1,107,040
Value of guano at \$11.....	\$399,199	\$560,736	\$589,875	\$503,695
Total value of manufactured products.....	\$1,218,675	\$1,808,686	\$1,582,015	\$1,670,735

Total number of menhaden annually taken on the coast of the United States, estimate 750,000,000.

In 1874 one company, on the coast of New Jersey, put up 30,000 dozen boxes of menhaden in oil, under the name of "American sardines," the value of which was, at least, \$90,000.

On the coast of New England thirty-five decked vessels, and numerous small ones, engage in the bait fishery, the catch of which approximates 100,000 barrels annually, worth from \$100,000 to \$130,000.

I, Hamilton Andrews Hill, of Boston, in the County of Suffolk and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being duly sworn, do hereby depose and declare that I was Secretary of the Boston Board of Trade from 1867 to 1873, and of the National Board of Trade of the United States from its organization in 1868 to 1873, during which time I was constantly engaged in studying the trade of the United States and other countries, and have had much experience in compiling statistics, and that I have compiled the series of tables hereto annexed relating to the fisheries and the trade in fish between the United States and British North America, and that they are correct to the best of my belief. These tables are numbered from one (1) to seventeen (17) respectively. Numbers (1) one to (8) eight and (10) ten and (13) thirteen to (15) fifteen, were compiled from the annual volumes on Commerce and Navigation issued by the Bureau of Statistics at Washington, and from special tables relating to the Fisheries and the Fish trade, prepared under the direction of Dr. Young, Chief of that Bureau.

Number nine (9), eleven (11) and twelve (12) were compiled from statements made up at the Custom House in Boston. Number sixteen (16) was made up from the Annual Reports of the Canadian Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

Number seventeen (17) is imperfect, and the figures which it contains have been taken from such Canadian authorities as I have had access to, and from Official Reports furnished to the State Department at Washington by the Consul General of the United States at Montreal, and the American Consul at Halifax.

Number two (2) shows the annual importation of Fish and fish products into the United States from British North America, from 1867 to 1877. Number seventeen (17) gives partial returns of the Exports of the same commodities from British North America to the United States. It will be noticed that in the corresponding years, the values returned in the Canadian tables of fish exported to the United States are not the equivalent to those given in the American tables of fish imported from

Canada, as it might seem that they should be. This, however, is in concordance with what is usually observable in comparing the trade reports of any two countries with each other. The export returns of the one always vary from the import returns of the other, and usually the value of the former appears as less than that of the latter. The reason for this is that the returns of exports are usually made up from ships manifests and similar documents, often hastily and imperfectly made up; but on the arrival of a cargo at its destination, when it becomes an import, and perhaps liable to duty, it is carefully and specifically reported upon Custom House entries with complete invoice attached. The returns of the authorities in the importing country are generally accepted therefore, as showing the true course of trade.

Number four (4) shows the amount saved in duties on fish imported into the United States from Canada, under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, to average annually for the three years 1874 to 1876, about three hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$340,000.00.) These figures are the result of careful estimates.

Numbers thirteen (13) and fourteen (14) show the American exports of Fish, of both domestic and foreign production to the Dominion of Canada, and to the other Provinces of British North America, from 1867 to 1877. These returns will be found to vary from the corresponding returns of Canadian import, (which do not appear at all in these tables) very much more than the American returns of imports vary from the Canadian returns of exports, to which reference has already been made, and for the additional reason that a very large part of the fish sent from the United States into Canada, goes by rail, and is not reported at all at any American Custom House, while it is of course entered at a Canadian Custom House, as soon as it has crossed the frontier.

Numbers thirteen (13) and fourteen (14) show the value of fish taken out of bond in the United States to be exported to Canada, and that which is shipped by vessels clearing at American ports. I have marked with my name the several volumes and returns used in the preparation of these tables, and the same are certified to by Alfred D. Foster, Notary Public, before whom my oath to this affidavit is made.

(Signed)

HAMILTON ANDREWS HILL.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

Boston, June 8th, 1877.

SUFFOLK, S. S.

Then personally appeared the above named, Hamilton Andrews Hill, and made oath that all the foregoing statements by him subscribed are true of his own personal knowledge, except so far as they depend upon information and belief, and those he believes to be true, before me,

(Signed)

ALFRED D. FOSTER,

Notary Public.

II.

Numbers and Tonnage of Vessels of the United States employed in the Cod and Mackerel Fisheries from 1866 to 1876, inclusive.

APPENDIX O.

II.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

REGISTER'S OFFICE,

Washington, D. C., September 5th, 1877.

PURSUANT to Section 886 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, I, W. P. Titcomb, Acting Register of the Treasury Department, do hereby certify that the annexed is a correct statement of the tonnage of the United States employed in the cod and mackerel fisheries in the years indicated, as shown by the records of this office.

W. P. TITCOMB,
Acting Register.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That W. P. Titcomb, Esq., who certified the annexed transcript, is now, and was at the time of doing so, Acting Register of the Treasury of the United States, and that full faith and credit are due to his official attestations.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, John Sherman, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused to be affixed the Seal of this Department, at the City of Washington, this fifth day of September, in the year of our Lord 1877.

[L. S.]

JOHN SHERMAN,
Secretary of the Treasury.

STATEMENT shewing the number and tonnage of vessels of the United States employed in the cod and mackerel fisheries from 1866 to 1876, inclusive:—

Years.	Vessels above 20 tons.		Vessels under 20 tons.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1866 (new adm't)		42,796, 28		8,343, 88		51,140, 16
1866 (old adm't)				503, 88		503, 88
1867		36,708, 62		7,858, 04		44,566, 66
1868	1,467	74,762, 92	753	9,123, 95	1,220	83,886, 87
1869	1,093	55,165, 43	621	7,538, 82	1,714	62,704, 25
1870	1,561	82,612, 27	731	8,847, 72	2,292	91,459, 99
1871	1,563	82,902, 43	863	9,963, 04	2,426	92,865, 47
1872	1,486	87,403, 08	899	10,143, 48	2,385	97,546, 56
1873	1,558	99,541, 58	895	9,976, 73	2,453	109,518, 31
1874	1,230	68,489, 62	869	9,800, 39	2,099	78,290, 01
1875	1,259	68,703, 16	929	11,503, 52	2,188	80,206, 68
1876	1,383	77,313, 92	928	10,482, 21	2,311	87,802, 13

III.

Statistics prepared by Mr. Goode.

III.

I, George Brown Goode, of the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia and United States of America, being duly sworn, do depose and say that I am the Assistant Curator of the United States National Museum, and for the last eight years I have been engaged in studying the natural history and habits of the fishes of the North Atlantic Coast, and during the last six years I have been an assistant to the United States Fish Commission, and during that time it has been part of my employment to collect and arrange statistics as to the amount of the fish taken on the coast of the United States,—that the tables hereto annexed were compiled from statistics and returns made from the different fishing towns of the Northern Atlantic States to the United States Fish Commission, and that the same are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; that the prices stated of the various kinds of fish, are actual prices as paid for said fish in Fulton Market, New York City,—that the table marked XVIII, (see Part I, Appendix O), entitled: “Table Showing Statistics of the Manufacture of Menhadden Oil and Guano in the United States, in the years 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876,” was also compiled by me from the returns of the United States Fish Commission, and that the same is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

GEORGE BROWN GOODE.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA, }
COUNTY OF HALIFAX, SS. }

HALIFAX, *October 10th, 1877.*

Then personally appeared the above-named George Brown Goode, and made oath that the foregoing affidavit, by him subscribed, is true to the best of his knowledge and belief, before me,

L. G. POWER,
Notary Public.

ESTIMATED TOTAL OF AMERICAN FISHERIES FOR 1876.

Consolidated table of sea-fisheries east of Cape May.....	13,030,521
Lake fisheries in 1872 (Milner).....	1,600,000
Products of whale fishery.....	2,737,379
	<hr/>
	\$17,368,200

This is exclusive of all river fisheries; of the river fisheries of salmon, shad, alewives and striped bass; of the coast fisheries south of Delaware Bay (Mullet, Bluefish, Menhadden, etc.); of all the Pacific coast fisheries, (salmon, cod, haddock, etc.); of the shell-fish (oysters, clams, etc.); of the Crustaceans (lobsters, crabs, etc.); of sponges, of

skins, of fur, and other seals, and of their oil. For these thirty millions of dollars (\$30,000,000) is considered to be a reasonable estimate.

WEIRS AND TRAPS.

		Men.
South side of Cape Cod		23 88
Martha's Vineyard Sound		9 36
Buzzard's Bay		30 90
Block Island		3 12
Narragansett Bay		30 210
Fykes	100	— 14
	100	9 14.436

PRODUCTS of Marine Fisheries

INSHORE FISHERIES. Or Fisheries Conducted from the Shore.							
	Pounds.	Price.	Wholesale Value.	Price.	Retail Value.	Price.	Mean Value.
Flounders and Flatfish.....	1,827,000*	4	73,080*	8	146,160*	6	109,620*
Halibut (fresh).....							
" New York.....							
" (cured) Gloucester, &c., flitches.....							
" fins.....							
" napes.....							
Cod (fresh) New York.....	5,000,000	5	250,000	8	400,000	6½	325,000
" Gloucester, Boston, &c.....	20,000,000*	3	600,000	5	1,000,000	4	800,000
" cured.....	28,480,000					1½	379,733
" roes.....	80,000	1	800	2½	1,800	1½	1,300
Tomcod.....	100,000	3	3,000	8	8,000	5½	5,500
Cunner.....	250,000	3	7,500	5	12,500	4	10,000
Tautog.....	615,550	8	49,244	15	92,332	11½	70,788
Mackerel (fresh).....	3,481,000	8	278,480	15	522,150	11½	400,315
" cured.....							
Spanish Mackerel.....	105,000	25	26,250	30	31,500	27½	28,575
Bonito.....	2,200,000	5	110,000	8	176,000	6½	143,000
Pompano.....	5,000	60	3,000	100	5,000	80	4,000
Swordfish.....	1,500,000	7	105,000	15	225,000	11	165,000
Butterfish, Whiting, White Perch.....	50,000	4	2,000	8	4,000	6	3,000
Sea Robins.....	90,000	2	1,800	3	2,700	2½	2,250
Squeteague.....	1,727,600	6	103,656	10	172,760	8	138,208
Kingfish.....	10,000	15	1,500	25	2,500	20	2,000
Spot and Croaker.....	75,000	5	3,750	10	7,500	7½	5,625
Sheepshead.....	75,000	15	11,250	20	15,000	17½	13,125
Scup.....	7,760,000	05	388,000	8	620,800	6½	504,400
Sea Bass.....	598,500	10	59,850	15	89,775	12½	74,812½
Striped Bass.....	123,200	15	18,480	20	24,640	17½	21,560
Bluefish.....	7,068,000	4	282,720	8	565,440	6	424,080
Smelt.....	400,000	10	40,000	15	60,000	12½	50,000
Menhaden.....	224,834,000						
Eels.....	250,000	12	30,000	18	45,000	15	37,500
Sturgeon.....	75,000	5	3,750	10	7,500	7½	5,625
Sea Shad.....	3,770,200	5	188,510	7½	282,765	6½	235,637½
Salmon.....	40,100						
Alewife.....	7,385,000	½	36,925	1	73,850	¾	55,387½
Herring.....	1,604,800	2	32,096	4	64,192	3	48,144
" (cured).....							
	319,579,950		\$2,710,641		\$4,658,864		\$4,064,484
Ratio to mile of coast line.....	287,392						\$3,655
(1, 112)							

N. B.—The cured cod have been restored to their green weight (three times as much). The salted mackerel have been restored to their green weight (one-sixth additional).

of Northern Atlantic States.

OFFSHORE FISHERIES. Or Fisheries Conducted in large vessels, principally over Twenty Tons.						Aggregate of Weights.	Aggregate of Values.	
Pounds.	Price.	Wholesale Value.	Price.	Retail Value.	Price.	Mean Value.		
12,339,000	4	493,560	15	1,850,850	9½	1,172,205	1,827,000	109,620
1,000,000	10	100,000	15	150,000	12½	125,000		1,172,205
8,476,000	2	169,520	...	302,500	...	236,010		125,000
200,000	5½	10,500	7½	15,000	6½	12,750		236,010
10,000	2½	250	3	300	2¾	275		12,750
							22,025,000	275
								325,000
160,641,700						3,319,182	214,221,700	800,000
20,000	1	200	2½	450	1½	325		3,698,915*
							100,000	1,625
							100,000	5,500
							250,000	10,000
							615,550	70,788
2,615,000	8	209,200	15	392,250	11½	300,725	6,096,000	701,040
35,632,900							35,632,900	1,674,222*
							105,000	28,875
							2,200,000	143,000
							5,000	4,000
							1,500,000	165,000
							50,000	3,000
							90,000	2,250
							1,727,600	138,208
							10,000	2,000
							75,000	5,625
							75,000	13,125
							7,760,000	504,400
							598,500	74,812
							123,200	21,560
							7,068,000	424,080
							400,000	50,000
478,912,500							703,746,500	1,657,790†
							250,000	37,500
							75,000	5,625
							3,770,200	235,637
							40,100	8,020
							7,385,000	55,387
4,000,000							5,604,800 }	48,144
							22,328,700 }	459,833*
							1,045,855,750	‡13,030,821
							940,510	‡11,718

* From Report of Bureau of Statistics.

† From official reports.

CUSTOM-HOUSE, BOSTON, MASS.,
Collector's Office, October 9th, 1877.

Statement of the importations of mackerel into the port of Boston, January 1st, 1877, to September 30th, 1877.

From.	Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.		Prince Edward Island.	
	Bbls.	Value.	Bbls.	Value.
1877. January	3,867	\$42,521 00		
February	858	7,685 00		
March	587½	5,720 00		
April	5½	39 00		
May	517½	3,188 00		
June	4,730	28,626 00	60	\$308 00
July	5,972½	31,235 00	611	3,146 00
August	6,151½	44,375 00	7,517	63,222 00
September	13,886½	114,952 00	6,361½	66,001 00
.....	36,576	\$278,341 00	14,549½	\$132,677 00

No importations of mackerel from Newfoundland.

BOSTON CUSTOM-HOUSE,
Collector's Office, October 17, 1877.

I hereby certify the foregoing statements to be true, as appearing upon the records of this office.
[L. S.] J. M. FISKE,
Asst. Dept. Collector.

IV.

Statement taken from the Books of Gloucester Firms,—produced by Mr. Babson,—filed by Mr. Foster on October 24, 1877, and objected to by the British Counsel as not being properly verified, and therefore inadmissible as evidence, but admitted by Commissioners for what it may be worth.

I, BENJ. F. BLATCHFORD, an Inspector of Customs, for the District of Gloucester, on oath, do depose and say, that at the request of Hon. Dwight Foster, I visited the fishing firms of this city, and requested from them a statement, *taken from their books*, of the number of vessels employed in the Bay of St. Lawrence mackerel fisheries, and the number of Bay mackerel packed by them each year, from 1866 to 1877. Also the same statistics in regard to the United States shore mackerel fishery, and annexed I send a true copy of their several reports made to me marked A, B, &c.

BENJ. F. BLATCHFORD.

MASSACHUSETTS, ESSEX, SS.

Personally appeared, said Blatchford, who made oath to the truth of the above affidavit. Before me,

AARON PARSONS,
Justice of the Peace.

David Low & Co's statement.

Years.	No. of vessels at bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel packed.	Bbls. of shore mackerel packed.	Total.
1866	5	3	1,240	1,379	2,628
1867	4	2	1,068	929	1,997
1868	6	4	917	835	1,752
1869	9	7	1,867	2,463	4,330
1870	7	7	1,203	3,610	4,813
1871	4	6	1,006	2,726	3,732
1872	3	4	460	1,498	1,958
1873	2	3	1,944	1,338	3,282
1874	4	3	1,328	2,977	4,305
1875	1	4	205	2,258	2,463
1876	0	4	None	4,775	4,775
1877	2	4	310	1,983	2,293 to Oct. 18

Certified to as correct. Before me this 19th Oct., 1877.

ADDISON CARTER,
*Special D. C.**A.—Leighton & Co's statement.*

They fit 18 vessels.

Years.	No. of vessels at bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1868	5	5	1,330	953
1869	7	9	2,075	1,945
1870	6	6	1,616	2,474
1871	10	6	3,105	2,177
1872	6	4	2,465	1,917
1873	11	5	4,657	1,634
1874	3	5	1,345	4,180
1875	1	4	308	1,450
1876	1	5	134	5,589
1877	5	10	107	1,604
	55	59	17,142	24,620

B.—Pettengell & Cunningham's statement.

They fit 6 vessels.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866	6	4	1,200	1,800
1867	4	4	900	850
1868	6	5	1,350	1,600
1869	3	6	800	1,380
1870	3	5	900	1,500
1871	3	4	850	1,050
1872	2	5	400	1,500
1873	2	4	300	1,150
1874	1	5	150	1,500
1875	1	4	225	1,380
1876	1	5	130	1,500
1877	2	3	200	300

C.—*Wm. Parsons, 2d, & Co's statement.*

They fit 14 vessels.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay of St. Lawrence.	No. of vessels off shore U. S.	No. of blbs. of bay mackerel.	No. of blbs. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	10	1	3,087	150
1867.....	9	2	2,676	420
1868.....	6	2	1,263	451
1869.....	6	2	1,109	614
1870.....	5	5	1,058	2,342
1871.....	4	4	907	1,579
1872.....	2	2	562	1,121
1873.....	4	1	952	425
1874.....	1	3	430	1,927
1875.....		3		1,544
1876.....		4		2,844
1877.....		0		

D.—*Alfred Mansfield's statement.*

They fit 9 vessels.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	1	9	105	1,045
1867.....	3	10	570	2,000
1868.....	1	11	107	1,900
1869.....	0	10	None....	2,120
1870.....	0	13	None....	3,426
1871.....	2	7	234	1,331
1872.....	0	7	None....	1,179
1873.....	5	4	1,127	485
1874.....	3	5	1,233	2,063
1875.....	1	4	89	1,912
1876.....	0	2	None....	1,100
1877.....	2	2		

E.—*B. Maddock's statement.*

[They fit 10 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....				
1867.....	10	2	3,200	1,100
1868.....	7	10	1,000	2,100
1869.....	5	6	1,800	2,350
1870.....	4	5	1,500	2,325
1871.....	8	5	2,000	1,350
1872.....	2	4	500	1,250
1873.....	5	2	1,500	650
1874.....	1	2	110	1,207
1875.....	0	2	None....	450
1876.....	0	2	None....	858
1877.....	3	1	None to date.	350
				13,990

F.—D. C. & H. Babson's statement.

[They fit 13 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	9	1	3,246	356
1867.....	6	3	1,620	834
1868.....	3	5	475	916
1869.....	6	3	904	587
1870.....	3	5	500	3,115
1871.....	3	6	887	1,420
1872.....	1	3	380	1,005
1873.....	4	3	1,110	1,395
1874.....	1	5	270	2,043
1875.....	3	5	642	1,288
1876.....	0	6	.....	3,977
1877.....	1	4	138	679

G.—Statement of Perkins Brothers.

[They fit 9 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	No. of bbls. of bay mackerel.	No. of bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1867.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1868.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1869.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1870.....	1	6	203	3,712
1871.....	5	6	926	2,350
1872.....	2	3	402	440
1873.....	3	4	435	1,315
1874.....	3	4	1,035	2,596
1875.....	1	3	205	1,082
1876.....	3	2	211	1,655
1877.....	0	2	None....	520

H.—Statement of Hardy & McKenzie.

[They fit 6 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1870.....	4	10	712	3,856
1871.....	5	10	1,748	3,554
1872.....	5	5	1,508	2,314
1873.....	6	4	251	3,095
1874.....	4	3	1,832	1,991
1875.....	3	3	686	1,115
1876.....	3	2	369	1,427
1877.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

I.—Statement of William C. Wonson.

[He fits 8 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	0	4	0	722
1867.....	0	3	0	267
1868.....	0	2	0	262
1869.....	2	4	301	922
1870.....	0	5	0	1,646
1871.....	0	5	0	846
1872.....	3	4	818	749
1873.....	2	2	492	233
1874.....	0	0	0	0
1875.....	0	0	0	0
1876.....	0	2	0	1,724
1877.....	0	2	0	165

J.—Statement of George Sayward.

[He fits 5 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	2	1	981	71
1867.....	2	1	641	171
1868.....	3	2	625	293
1869.....	3	0	279	0
1870.....	1	1	235	727
1871.....	2	3	513	572
1872.....	1	1	426	83
1873.....	2	0	419	0
1874.....	2	0	743	0
1875.....	1	0	200	0
1876.....	0	0	0	0
1877.....	1	0	0	0

K.—Statement of Daniel Sayward.

[He fits 4 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	2	3	1,275	500
1867.....	4	2	1,088	233
1868.....	3	4	501	1,007
1869.....	5	3	1,032	377
1870.....	3	6	422	1,699
1871.....	6	3	1,134	830
1872.....	4	3	373	849
1873.....	2	2	549	458
1874.....	2	2	367	653
1875.....	1	1	91	78
1876.....	0	0	0	0
1877.....	2	0	0	0

L.—Statement of Frederick G. Wonson.

[He fits 11 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	4	5	700	1,156
1867.....	4	9	785	1,391
1868.....	6	6	820	1,202
1869.....	5	5	1,411	1,746
1870.....	5	6	740	3,883
1871.....	6	6	1,292	4,460
1872.....	2	7	473	3,168
1873.....	4	6	960	3,332
1874.....	3	12	620	7,270
1875.....	2	10	203	3,129
1876.....	0	12		6,213
1877.....	1	11		

M.—Statement of Samuel Haskell.

[He fits 5 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	0	0	0	0
1867.....	0	0	0	0
1868.....	2	3	550	339
1869.....	1	2	115	435
1870.....	2	3	335	604
1871.....	2	3	540	675
1872.....	0	3	0	1,294
1873.....	4	1	672	512
1874.....	2	2	720	1,143
1875.....	0	1	0	710
1876.....	0	1	0	1,226
1877.....	1	1	0	308

N.—Statement of Smith & Oakes.

[They fit 7 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1868.....	3	2	500	520
1869.....	5	5	1,010	125
1870.....	4	6	663	1,178
1871.....	1	2	150	530
1872.....	0	0	0	0
1873.....	2	0	527	0
1874.....	1	0	372	0
1875.....	0	0	0	0
1876.....	0	0	0	0
1877.....	0	0	0	0

O.—Statement of Samuel Lane & Bro.

[They fit 8 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	3	—	659	0
1867.....	4	1	946	399
1868.....	4	0	471	0
1869.....	3	2	369	608
1870.....	0	3	0	1,283
1871.....	1	3	114	1,368
1872.....	2	2	318	547
1873.....	4	1	1,302	408
1874.....	3	2	1,052	1,763
1875.....	0	3	0	1,864
1876.....	0	3	0	3,542
1877.....	3	3	0	1,375

P.—Statement of Shute & Merchant.

[They fit 11 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1867.....	11	3	3,130	293
1868.....	3	3	586	1,690
1869.....	6	5	1,115	895
1870.....	2	3	584	2,226
1871.....	3	5	1,198	2,968
1872.....	3	5	1,101	2,964
1873.....	4	5	1,706	1,758
1874.....	2	6	1,118	3,550
1875.....	1	6	214	2,451
1876.....	1	4	161	2,612
1877.....	1	4	Not arrived.	866
	37	60	10,913	22,263

Q.—Statement of Walen & Allen.

[They fit 13 vessels.]

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1870.....	1	4	200	2,240
1871.....	3	4	645	1,521
1872.....	0	4	0	803
1873.....	2	2	602	1,063
1874.....	1	3	333	2,038
1875.....	1	2	108	1,628
1876.....	1	2	70	1,423
1877.....	0	3	0	520
	9	24	1,958	11,236

R.—Statement of Dennis & Ayer.

(They fit 12 vessels.)

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	13	2	5,370	733
1867.....	13	6	3,393	307
1868.....	12	14	1,873	1,758
1869.....	11	13	2,372	1,914
1870.....	12	14	2,559	2,466
1871.....	2	12	2,585	2,491
1872.....	8	5	2,287	1,150
1873.....	8	2	2,504	1,199
1874.....	7	6	2,455	1,519
1875.....	1	4	116	2,210
1876.....	1	5	136	3,251
1877.....	0	4	0	433

S.—Joseph O. Procter's statement.

Years.	Vessels in bay fishing.	Vessels shore fishing.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. shore.	Total.
1866.....	7	1	3,127	122	3,255
1867.....	7	3	1,977	403	2,380
1868.....	2	2	1,099	192	1,291
1869.....	3	5	637	1,535	2,172
1870.....	2	7	453	3,392	3,850
1871.....	3	2	712	2,138	2,850
1872.....	5	3	1,324	207	1,531
1873.....	9	2	2,701	1,188	3,889
1874.....	7	2	2,456	359	2,815
1875.....	5	1	815	231	1,046
1876.....	1	1	190	445	635
1877.....	1	1	.....	167	.....

T.—Statement of James G. Tarr & Bro.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	9	3	2,913	752
1867.....	5	4	1,312	956
1868.....	6	2	689	197
1869.....	3	4	619	1,780
1870.....	3	6	512	4,240
1871.....	3	5	1,054	1,138
1872.....	2	3	727	1,100
1873.....	2	2	660	1,000
1874.....	2	3	774	2,510
1875.....	0	3	.....	2,327
1876.....	3	5	197	4,000
1877.....	9	4	650	1,200

GLOUCESTER, Oct. 17, 1877.

JAMES G. TARR & BRO.

U.—Statement of Clark & Somes.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	No data.			
1867.....				
1868.....				
1869.....				
1870.....				
1871.....	6	2	2 004	907
1872.....	9	2	2 189	751
1873.....	7	2	2 333	582
1874.....	4	1	1, 407	1, 198
1875.....	0	2		515
1876.....	1	4	51	2, 346
1877.....	1	2	343	844

CLARK & SOMES.

By P.

V.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	8	3	3, 456	811
1867.....	9	4	3, 070	1, 942
1868.....	7	4	1, 486	1, 000
1869.....	4	8	1, 0 8	3, 036
1870.....	4	10	1, 095	4, 476
1871.....	1	12	143	4, 908
1872.....	1	4	163	1, 540
1873.....	1	5	145	1, 466
1874.....	1	8	201	6, 518
1875.....		9		3, 478
1876.....		10		8, 561
1877.....	2	5		1, 944
	39	82	11, 047	39, 680

I certify that the above is a true statement from the books of Joseph Friend and testified by him.
A. CARTER, *Dep. Coll.*

W.—Statement of George Norwood & Son.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....				
1867.....				
1868.....				
1869.....				
1870.....				
1871.....	4	9	800	2, 548
1872.....	2	5	695	756
1873.....	5	2	1, 866	682
1874.....		4		2, 138
1875.....		3		2, 078
1876.....		3		2, 961
1877.....				

GEO. NORWOOD & SON

X.—Statement of George Friend & Co.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	0	0	0	0
1867.....	0	0	0	0
1868.....	0	0	0	0
1869.....	0	0	0	0
1870.....		4		1,567
1871.....	3	5	622	2,173
1872.....	12	3	506	971
1873.....	Not in business.			
1874.....				
1875.....				
1876.....				
1877.....				

Attest:

GEORGE FRIEND & CO.,
By JOHN J. SOMES.

Y.—Statement of Cunningham & Thompson.

They fit 11 vessels.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1876.....	0	1	No return	1,100
1877.....	1	2	No return	500

GLOUCESTER, Oct. 16, 1876.

CUNNINGHAM & THOMPSON.

Z.—Statement of George Dennis & Co.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Bbls. of bay mackerel.	Bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	Not in business.			
1867.....				
1868.....				
1869.....				
1870.....				
1871.....				
1872.....	1	1	93	203
1873.....	2		36	
1874.....	1	3	270	1,712
1875.....	1	1	85	106
1876.....		2		1,959
1877.....	1	3	91	536

AA.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	No. of bbls. of bay mackerel.	No. of bbls. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	9	1	3,711	462
1867.....	8	2	2,842	474
1868.....	5	1	914	296
1869.....	4	2	805	381
1870.....	5	1	1,153	105
1871.....	5	0	1,020	.....
1872.....	4	1	1,207	206
1873.....	3	1	1,643	720
1874.....	4	5	1,847	3,044
1875.....	1	4	153	3,784
1876.....	0	5	0	5,578
1877.....	4	{ 5 early. 3 since Sept. 10th. }		5 1,021

The above does not include fresh mackerel sold, which would probably amount to at least 2500 bbls. taken on this shore, but includes salt sold out of pickle, which accounts for the difference between this and our inspection returns.

ROWE & JORDAN.

BB.—Statement of Leonard Walen.

Fits 5 vessels.

Years.	No. of bbls. of bay mackerel.	No. of bbls. of shore mackerel.	Total.
1866.....	215	1,100	
1867.....	182	940	
1868.....	210	1,300	
1869.....	None.....	.....
1870.....	None.....	.....
1871.....	480	880	
1872.....	None.....	.....
1873.....	None.....	.....
1874.....	200	1,600	
1875.....	None.....	.....
1876.....	170	860	
1877.....	159	900	
			9,296

Oct. 17, 1877.

LEONARD WALEN.

CC₁—Statement of William S. Wonson.

Years.	No. of vessels in bay.	No. of vessels off shore.	Ebbs. of bay mackerel.	Ebbs. of shore mackerel.
1866.....	0	0		
1867.....	0	6		767
1868.....	2	4	972	490
1869.....	2	7	841	1,061
1870.....	1	4	155	1,132
1871.....	3	3	547	363
1872.....	0	1		281
1873.....	2	7	923	927
1874.....	2	3	885	266
1875.....	1	1	156	459
1876.....	0	7		2,878
1877.....	1	6	9	1,200

WM. S. WONSON.

V.

Statement of Mackerel inspected at Portsmouth and Newcastle for the years 1869 to 1877, inclusive.

V.

MACKEREL INSPECTED AT PORTSMOUTH AND NEWCASTLE, N. H.

Year ending May 1, 1869.....	157 Barrels.
“ “ 1870.....	3,700 “
“ “ 1871.....	2,071 “
“ “ 1872.....	1,878 “
“ “ 1873.....	2,398 “
“ “ 1874.....	5,519 “
“ “ 1875.....	3,415 “
“ “ 1876.....	5,351 “
“ “ 1877.....	643 “

9) 25,132

Average 2,792

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
Secretary's Office, Concord, Sept. 4, 1877.

I hereby certify that the above statement is taken from the Reports of Inspection made to His Excellency the Governor by the several Inspectors for the years therein named.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my official signature and affixed the Seal of the State.

A. B. THOMPSON,
Secretary of State.

VI.

STATE OF MAINE, }
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE. }

I hereby certify, that the following is a correct summary of the Annual Returns of the Inspector General of Fish for the State of Maine, for the several years hereafter written, so far as relates to mackerel inspected by him, viz. :

1866.....	45,407	barrels.	1870.....	51,611	barrels.
1867.....	33,676	do.	1871.....	48,603	do.
1868.....	26,876	do.	1872.....	22,973	do.
1869.....	36,031	do.	1873.....	22,193	do.

No return was made for the year 1874.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the State to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta, this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, and in the one hundred and second year of the Independence of the United States of America.

S. J. CHADBOURNE,
Secretary of State.

VII.

Summary of Returns of Mackerel inspected in the State of Massachusetts for several years past.

A.—Analysis of reports of inspectors of Massachusetts for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, showing the number of barrels inspected each year at each of the undermentioned districts.

	Boston.	Gloucester.	Newburyport.	Rockport.	Hingham.	Cohasset.	Barnstable.	Yarmouth.	Dennis.	Harwich.	Chatham.	Wellfleet.	Truro.	Provincetown.	Nantucket & Dartmouth.	Other places.	Total.
1850	42,956	49,983	22,929	3,916	14,536	15,346	9,065	5,821	20,395	14,839	5,764	17,615	8,570	27,865	.....	5,062	242,572
1851	40,738	41,627	21,203	3,540	23,863	22,712	9,102	7,337	16,230	21,825	5,223	33,477	10,285	20,468	.....	4,642	328,242
1852	39,893	44,013	11,806	3,525	13,134	11,017	3,200	3,235	10,290	12,471	3,769	11,367	2,540	12,204	.....	1,184	198,128
1853	33,328	37,891	10,393	4,523	6,874	7,003	484	1,050	7,261	7,468	2,039	8,723	298	2,286	.....	1,119	133,340
1854	28,090	41,332	7,071	3,278	5,357	7,392	482	968	6,664	8,907	2,365	13,018	250	8,357	.....	1,139	135,350
1855	43,987	73,135	13,240	5,749	8,451	8,773	580	1,102	7,731	11,736	3,156	20,898	5,511	6,266	.....	769	212,015
1856	54,140	68,094	12,131	6,513	9,014	7,954	447	399	8,366	10,020	4,413	20,595	2,339	9,528	.....	469	214,312
1857	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	198,706
1858	35,547	56,489	9,089	4,153	3,007	3,130	.....	388	2,112	3,719	1,004	5,335	1,644	5,985	.....	.....	131,602
1859	32,923	59,664	6,852	3,004	3,590	2,244	.....	633	7,094	9,880	4,514	27,350	986	19,350	.....	46	90,716
1860	32,128	97,992	6,805	5,562	11,774	11,980	.....	407	7,605	10,917	3,458	14,118	220	16,596	.....	358	235,706
1861	19,471	90,516	7,186	4,990	9,225	9,273	.....	435	10,077	11,342	6,453	26,431	.....	22,753	.....	302	104,284
1862	29,224	116,278	7,378	6,100	11,306	11,454	.....	.....	10,637	8,666	6,946	27,066	.....	25,337	.....	282	306,943
1863	30,530	133,892	6,382	5,071	14,344	13,862	.....	.....	6,858	7,711	7,049	26,775	.....	17,823	.....	1,218	274,357
1864	32,356	134,938	7,808	4,970	8,129	8,722	.....	.....	4,069	5,893	4,131	17,536	16	17,403	.....	118	256,996
1865	36,399	141,576	8,545	5,716	5,701	9,028	.....	.....	3,391	5,702	2,946	15,834	.....	14,893	.....	2,064	231,696
1866	46,133	112,856	7,469	7,363	5,411	7,434	.....	22	5,429	6,530	2,314	23,546	.....	17,392	.....	3,208	211,510
1867	18,441	103,918	7,469	6,480	5,797	9,758	.....	.....	5,219	7,149	2,456	11,356	.....	20,856	.....	2,801	180,056
1868	30,289	75,517	5,196	5,200	5,915	4,990	.....	.....	7,773	9,853	3,652	27,875	.....	23,998	.....	15	224,201
1869	34,135	93,127	6,269	5,962	6,526	9,632	.....	.....	8,461	17,642	8,148	41,353	.....	25,829	.....	3,088	314,521
1870	42,766	129,595	7,365	9,800	7,200	10,766	.....	.....	5,927	11,996	6,208	32,871	.....	25,375	.....	5,067	479,521
1871	43,016	107,009	6,146	6,941	2,288	5,518	.....	.....	5,816	10,167	3,413	23,740	.....	16,719	.....	731	250,417
1872	35,455	67,393	3,821	3,679	1,621	5,016	.....	.....	4,187	12,157	3,446	23,977	.....	15,986	.....	1,002	181,957
1873	26,411	83,459	3,273	3,034	1,200	4,145	.....	.....	4,696	16,802	4,544	34,833	.....	22,020	.....	191	185,748
1874	36,505	118,313	5,058	4,126	1,457	6,408	.....	.....	1,526	10,340	1,802	18,406	.....	22,020	.....	7	258,380
1875	25,372	51,040	2,202	1,742	.....	4,268	.....	.....	2,175	13,934	4,864	38,281	.....	16,931	.....	19	136,064
1876	36,364	95,421	3,951	5,610	.....	6,365	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,732	225,941

B.—Statement showing the number of barrels of each quality of mackerel, (being the catch of United States vessels,) submitted annually for inspection within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, from 1850 to 1876.

Years.	No. 1 barrels.	No. 2 barrels.	No. 3 barrels.	No. 4 barrels.	Total domestic catch in- spected barrels.
1850	88,401	44,909	87,604	21,658	242,572
1851	90,763	102,467	135,598	414	329,242
1852	84,026	67,075	44,815	2,212	198,128
1853	49,016	24,583	39,897	19,844	133,340
1854	39,595	46,242	55,133	3,380	135,350
1855	29,202	91,122	90,199	1,492	212,015
1856	89,333	76,819	47,981	179	214,312
1857	84,519	45,218	38,257	712	168,706
1858	75,347	21,930	32,333	1,892	131,602
1859	61,330	12,060	22,207	119	99,716
1860	58,828	192,837	50,579	3,442	235,706
1861	70,877	100,286	22,486	635	194,284
1862	81,903	78,388	100,011	563	260,865
1863	67,985	136,075	102,602	281	306,943
1864	103,383	137,747	32,213	14	274,357
1865	153,923	63,562	39,266	245	256,996
1866	150,329	36,319	44,784	264	231,696
1867	123,616	46,284	41,189	421	211,510
1868	93,091	42,262	44,077	626	180,056
1869	79,914	92,019	65,717	3,551	234,201
1870	66,046	189,423	63,019	33	318,521
1871	105,187	85,867	68,393	40	259,417
1872	71,867	54,371	55,603	116	181,957
1873	83,687	63,889	37,795	377	185,748
1874	112,972	71,442	73,966	-----	258,380
1875	33,106	19,270	73,426	4,262	130,064
1876	30,869	96,773	93,481	4,818	225,941

C.—Statement showing the number of barrels of each quality of mackerel, (being the catch of other than United States vessels,) submitted annually for reinspection within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, from 1850 to 1876.

Years.	Barrels No. 1.	Barrels No. 2.	Barrels No. 3.	Barrels No. 4.	Barrels total of foreign catch re- inspected
1850	11,143	8,356	2,069	40	21,608
1851	5,722	6,192	1,553	-----	13,467
1852	9,420	7,048	3,304	-----	19,772
1853	5,173	3,562	2,927	-----	11,662
1854	Not	given.	-----	-----	-----
1855	"	"	-----	-----	-----
1856	"	"	-----	-----	-----
1857	"	"	-----	-----	-----
1858	"	"	-----	-----	-----
1859	14,681	7,242	10,083	2,706	34,712
1860	Not	given.	-----	-----	-----
1861	6,062	6,420	3,143	206	15,831
1862	7,414	5,959	3,393	38	16,804
1863	9,508	7,333	5,580	11	22,432
1864	13,046	11,729	7,537	4	32,316
1865	24,272	19,304	7,727	15	51,318
1866	14,654	4,986	4,491	-----	24,131
1867	49,007	11,063	6,712	18	66,800
1868	14,327	3,627	2,122	4	20,080
1869	9,927	9,052	6,713	21	25,784
1870	9,206	17,526	7,149	-----	33,881
1871	11,051	13,047	6,692	-----	30,790
1872	15,757	17,189	15,734	-----	48,680
1873	12,933	14,813	9,592	-----	37,338
1874	19,887	15,211	10,574	-----	45,672
1875	14,444	16,215	13,112	74	43,845
1876	11,257	13,934	11,835	304	37,390

NOTE.—The re-inspection of foreign mackerel is confined mainly to Boston.

D.

1851.

The following statistical information is obtained through the returns made for that purpose by the deputy inspector of fish to the inspector-general of fish for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for the year 1851, and therefore may be relied upon as being correct, showing the extent and localities of the mackerel fishery; the number of vessels owned in Massachusetts and in other States engaged in that branch of industry, which have packed their fish in this State; the amount of tonnage, and the number of men and boys employed on board those vessels, viz:

Where owned.	No. of vessels.	Tonnage.	Men and boys.
Boston.....	7	596	85
Beverly.....	12	761	97
Barnstable.....	28	1,918	339
Brewster.....	4	259	47
Charlestown.....	2	74	14
Chatham.....	19	1,346	230
Cohasset.....	44	2,885	561
Dartmouth.....	1	117	16
Dennis.....	47	3,096	585
Eastham.....	3	170	23
Essex.....	1	71	10
Gloucester.....	241	13,639	2,326
Harwich.....	48	3,231	577
Hingham.....	37	2,492	491
Lynn.....	4	167	33
Manchester.....	1	45	8
Marblehead.....	1	30	5
Martha's Vineyard.....	6	421	65
Nantucket.....	3	168	30
Newburyport.....	67	4,343	707
Orleans.....	5	336	54
Plymouth.....	6	561	65
Provincetown.....	61	4,322	688
Rockport.....	42	1,537	283
Salem.....	1	60	9
Scituate.....	13	715	119
Salisbury.....	4	305	48
Truro.....	52	3,626	581
Wellfleet.....	79	5,411	852
Yarmouth.....	14	990	169
Total in Massachusetts.....	853	53,712	9,117
Maine.....	47	3,019	446
New Hampshire.....	8	515	84
Rhode Island.....	7	479	71
Connecticut.....	23	1,551	255
Maryland.....	2	141	25
	940	59,417	9,998

1851.

Whole amount of mackerel inspected in Massachusetts in 1851 in barrels.....	329,242
Of which were caught at Bay Chaleurs or in British waters.....	140,906
Caught on shores of the United States or in American waters.....	188,336
	329,242

(Signed)

CHAS. MAYO,
Inspector-General of Fish.

1852.

Whole amount of mackerel inspected in Massachusetts in 1852.....	198,127 barrels.
Of which amount were caught in the Bay of St. Lawrence in American vessels.....	38,000
Caught in American waters.....	160,127
	198,127

(Signed)

CHARLES MAYO,
Inspector-General of Fish.

E.

Statement of the vessels owned in Massachusetts, employed in the mackerel fishery in the year 1853.

Where owned.	No. of vessels.	Tonnage.	No. men and boys.
Boston.....	8	675	25
Beverly.....	12	761	97
Barnstable.....	30	2,119	355
Brewster.....	4	259	47
Charlestown.....	2	74	16
Cohasset.....	37	2,062	451
Chatham.....	18	1,264	221
Dartmouth.....	1	117	16
Dennis.....	48	3,060	595
Eastham.....	3	170	23
Essex.....	1	71	10
Gloucester.....	259	15,139	2,526
Harwich.....	60	4,331	680
Hingham.....	30	1,991	415
Lynn.....	6	203	51
Manchester.....	1	45	3
Marblehead.....	1	30	5
Martha's Vineyard.....	6	420	65
Nantucket.....	3	168	30
Newburyport.....	57	3,641	628
Orleans.....	5	336	54
Plymouth.....	6	561	65
Provincetown.....	65	4,815	750
Rockport.....	50	2,160	353
Salem.....	1	80	9
Scituate.....	7	430	75
Salisbury.....	4	305	48
Truro.....	49	3,326	556
Wellfleet.....	86	5,911	852
Yarmouth.....	15	1,106	180

(Signed)

PAYNE G. ATWOOD,
Inspector General.]

APPENDIX P.

No. 1.

In the Court of Vice Admiralty.

Judgment of His Honor Judge Hazen in the case of the "White Fawn."

The following is a copy of the decision recently pronounced by His Honor Judge Hazen in this case.

At the last sitting of this Court, Mr. Tuck, B. C., Proctor for the Crown, applied, on behalf of Sir John A. McDonald, the Attorney-General of the Dominion, for a monition, calling upon the owners of the schooner and her cargo, to show cause why the *White Fawn* and the articles above enumerated with her tackle, etc., should not be considered as forfeited to the Crown for a violation of the Imperial Statute 59, George III., Cap. 38, and the Dominion Statutes 31 Vic., Cap. 61, and 33 Vic., Cap. 15.

The *White Fawn*, as it appears from her papers, was a new vessel of 64 tons, and registered at Gloucester, Massachusetts, in 1870, and owned in equal shares by Messrs. Somes, Friend, and Smith, of that place;

That she was duly licensed for one year, to be employed in the Coasting Trade and Fisheries, under the laws of the United States;

That by her "Fishery Shipping Paper," signed by the master and ten men, the usual agreement was entered into for pursuing the Cod and other Fisheries, with minute provisions for the division of the profits among the owners, skipper, and crew. These papers and other documents found on board, are all in perfect order, and not the slightest suspicion can be thrown upon them. The Seamen's Articles are dated 19th November, 1870:—On the 24th Nov., 1870, she arrived at Head Harbor, a small Bay in the eastern end of Campobello, in the county of Charlotte, in this Province.

Captain Betts, a Fishery Officer, in command of the *Water Lily*, a vessel in the service of the Dominion, states that on the 25th November he was lying with his vessel at Head Harbor. Several other vessels, and among them the *White Fawn*, were lying in the harbor; that he went on board the *White Fawn*: He states a number of particulars respecting the vessel from her papers, and adds that the said vessel, *White Fawn*, had arrived at Head Harbor on the 24th Nov., and had been engaged purchasing fresh herrings, to be used as bait in trawl fishing; that there were on board about 5,000 herrings, which had been obtained and taken on board at Head Harbor; also 15 tons of ice, and all the materials and appliances for trawl fishing, and that the master admitted to him that the herring had been obtained at Head Harbor by him for the purpose of being used as bait for fishing. There are then some remarks as to the master being deceived as to the fact of the cutter being in the neighborhood, which are not material; and, that deponent further understood that persons had been employed at Head Harbour to catch the herring for him; that he seized the schooner on the 2th, [sic], and arrived with her the same evening at St. John, and delivered her on the next day to the Collector of the Customs.

No reason is given for the delay which has taken place of more than

two months in proceeding against the vessel, which was seized, as alleged by Captain Betts, for a violation of the terms of the Convention and the Laws of Canada; her voyage was broken up, and her crew dispersed at the time of the seizure.

By the Imperial Statute, 59 George III., cap. 38, it is declared that if any foreign vessel, or person on board thereof, "shall be found to be fishing, or to have been fishing, or preparing to fish within such distance (three marine miles) of the coast, such vessel and cargo shall be forfeited."

The Dominion Statute, 31 Vic., Cap. 61, as amended by 33 Vic., Cap. 15, enacts: "If such foreign vessel is found fishing, or preparing to fish, or to have been fishing in British waters, within three marine miles of the coast, such vessel, her tackle, etc., and cargo, shall be forfeited."

The *White Fawn* was a foreign vessel in British waters; in fact, within one of the Counties of this Province when she was seized. It is not alleged that she is subject to forfeiture for having entered Head Harbour for other purposes than shelter or obtaining wood and water. Under Section III, of the Imperial Act, no forfeiture but a penalty can be inflicted for such entry. Nor is it alleged that she committed any infraction of the Customs or Revenue Laws. It is not stated that she had fished within the prescribed limits, or had been found fishing, but that she was "preparing to fish," having bought bait (an article no doubt very material if not necessary for successful fishing) from the inhabitants of Campobello. Assuming that the fact of such purchase establishes a "preparing to fish" under the Statutes (which I do not admit), I think, before a forfeiture could be incurred, it must be shown that the preparations were for an illegal fishing in British waters: hence, for aught which appears, the intention of the Master may have been to prosecuting his fishing outside of the three-mile limit, in conformity with the Statutes; and it is not for the court to impute fraud or an intention to infringe the provisions of our statutes to any person, British or foreign, in the absence of evidence of such fraud. He had a right, in common with all other persons, to pass with his vessel through the three miles, from our coast to the fishing grounds outside, which he might lawfully use, and, as I have already stated, there is no evidence of any intention to fish before he reached such grounds.

The construction sought to be put upon the statutes by the Crown officers would appear to be thus:—"A foreign vessel, being in British waters and purchasing from a British subject any article which may be used in prosecuting the fisheries, without its being shown that such article is to be used in illegal fishing in British waters, is liable to forfeiture as preparing to fish in British waters."

I cannot adopt such a construction. I think it harsh and unreasonable, and not warranted by the words of the statutes. It would subject a foreign vessel, which might be of great value, as in the present case, to forfeiture, with her cargo and outfits, for purchasing (while she was pursuing her voyage in British waters, as she lawfully might do, within three miles of our coast) of a British subject any article, however small in value (a cod-line or net for instance) without its being shown that there was any intention of using such articles in illegal fishing in British waters before she reached the fishing ground to which she might legally resort for fishing under the terms of the Statutes.

I construe the Statutes simply thus:—If a foreign vessel is found—1st, having taken fish; 2nd, fishing, although no fish have been taken; 3rd, "preparing to fish," (i. e.), with her crew arranging her nets, lines, and fishing tackle for fishing, though not actually applied to fishing, in

British waters, in either of those cases specified in the statutes the forfeiture attaches.

I think the words "preparing to fish" were introduced for the purpose of preventing the escape of a foreign vessel which, though with intent of illegal fishing in British waters, had not taken fish or engaged in fishing by setting nets and lines, but was seized in the very act of putting out her lines, nets, etc., into the water, and so preparing to fish. Without these a vessel so situated would escape seizure, inasmuch as the crew had neither caught fish nor been found fishing.

Taking this view of the Statutes, I am of the opinion that the facts disclosed by the affidavits do not furnish legal grounds for the seizure of the American schooner *White Falcon*, by Captain Betts, the commander of the Dominion vessel *Water Lily*, and do not make out a *prima facie* case for condemnation in this Court, of the schooner, her tackle, &c., and cargo.

I may add that as the construction I have put upon the Statute differs from that adopted by the Crown Officers of the Dominion, it is satisfactory to know that the judgment of the Supreme Court may be obtained by information, filed there, as the Imperial Act 59, George III., Cap. 38, gave concurrent jurisdiction to that Court in cases of this nature.

No. 2.

[Extract from the Halifax Daily Reporter and Times, Dec. 7, 1870.]

In the Vice Admiralty Court at Halifax.

The "Wampatuck."—Case No. 254.—Sir William Young, Judge.—6th Dec., 1870.

This is an American fishing vessel of 46 tons burthen, owned at Plymouth, in the State of Massachusetts, and sailing under a fishing license, issued by the Collector there on the 25th of April last. On the 27th of June she was seized by Capt. Tory, of the Dominion cutter *Ida E.*, for a violation of the Dominion Fishery Acts of 1868 and 1870, and her nationality and character appear from her enrolment and other papers delivered up by her master, and on file in this Court. A monition having issued in the usual form on the 27th of July, a libel was filed on the 10th of August, and a claim having been put in by the owners with a bond for costs, as required by the Act, they filed their responsive allegation on the 18th of August. The fish and salt on board at the time of seizure being perishable, were sold under an order of the Court, and the proceeds, with the vessel herself, remain subject to its decree. The evidence was completed early in September, but the case, being the first of the several fishing cases, that has been tried, was not brought before the Court for a hearing till the 26th ult., when it was fully argued, and stands now for judgment. Although it presents few or none of the nicer and more perplexing questions that will arise in the other cases, now also ripe for a hearing, it will be regarded with the deepest interest by the community and the profession, and on that account demands a more cautious and thorough examination than it might require simply on its own merits.

"An attempt was made at the argument to import into it wider and more comprehensive inquiries than properly belong to it. I am here to

administer the law as I find it, not to determine its expediency or its justice, still less to inquire into the wisdom of a Treaty deliberately made by the two Governments of Great Britain and the United States, and acknowledged by both. If the people of the United States, inadvertently, as it is alleged, or unwisely (which I by no means admit) renounced their inherent rights, and ought to fall back on the Treaty of 1783, rather than abide by the existing Treaty of 1818, that is a matter for negotiation between the two contracting powers—it belongs to the higher region of international and political action, and not to the humbler, but still the highly responsible and honorable duty now imposed on me, of interpreting and enforcing the law as it is.

“By the first Article of the Treaty of 1818, after certain privileges or rights within certain limits conceded to American fishermen, it is declared, that “the United States hereby renounce forever any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants thereof, to take, dry, or cure fish, on or within three marine miles of any of the coasts, bays, creeks, or harbors of His Britannic Majesty’s dominions in America, not included within the above mentioned limits. Provided, however, that the American fishermen shall be admitted to enter such bays or harbors for the purpose of shelter, and of repairing damage therein, of purchasing wood, and of obtaining water, and for no other purpose whatever. But they shall be under such restrictions as may be necessary to prevent their taking, drying, or curing fish therein, or in any other manner whatever abusing the privileges hereby reserved to them.

“Every word of this Article should be studied and understood by the people of these Provinces. They perfectly appreciate the value of their exclusive right to the inshore fishery, thus formally and clearly recognized, and they must take care temperately but firmly to preserve and guard it. It was argued in this case, that the restriction applied only to fishing vessels; that is, vessels fitted out for the purposes of fishing—that it did not extend to other vessels which might find it convenient or profitable to fish within the limits. But that is not the language of the Treaty nor of the Acts founded on it. The United States renounce the liberty enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants, not merely by the fishermen thereof, and any vessel, fishing or otherwise, within the limits prescribed by the Treaty, is liable to forfeiture.

“Extreme cases were put to me at the hearing, and I have seen them frequently stated elsewhere, of a trading vessel or an American citizen catching a few fish for food or for pleasure, and the Court was asked whether in such and the like cases it would impose forfeitures or penalties. When such cases arise there will be no difficulty, I think, in dealing with them. Neither the Government nor the Courts of the Dominion would favor a narrow and illiberal construction, or sanction a forfeiture or penalty inconsistent with national comity and usage, and with the plain object and intent of the Treaty. The rights of a people, as of an individual, are never so much respected as when they are exercised in a spirit of fairness and moderation. Besides, by a clause of the Dominion Act of 1868, which is not to be found in the Imperial Act of 1819, nor in our Nova Scotia Act of 1836, which formed the code of rules and regulations under the Treaty of 1818, with the sanction of His Majesty, the Governor-General in Council, in cases of seizure under the Act, may, by order, direct a stay of proceedings; and, in cases of condemnation, may relieve from the penalty, in whole or in part, and on such terms as may be deemed right. Any undue straining of the law, or harshness in its application may thus be softened or redressed, and although I was told that little confidence was to be placed in the

moderation of Governments; it is obvious that confidence is placed in it by the authorities and by the people of the United States; and it is a fact honorable to both parties, that the naval forces employed on the fishing grounds in the past seasons, have acted in perfect harmony, and carried out the provisions of the Treaty in good faith. The organs of public opinion, indeed, in the United States, of the highest stamp, have denounced open and deliberate violation of the Treaty in terms as decided as we ourselves could use.

"These considerations have prepared us for a review of the pleadings and of the evidence taken in this case. The libel contains six articles. The first sets out in the briefest possible terms, the first article already cited of the Treaty of 20th Oct., 1818. The second gives the title of the Imperial Act 59 Geo. 3, chap. 38. The third that of the British North American Act 1867, the 30th and 31st Vic. chap. The fourth, those of the Dominion Acts of 1868 and 1870, the 31st Vic., chap. 61 and the 33 Vic. chap. 15. The fifth alleges that on the 27th of June last, the *Wampatuck*, her master and crew, within the limits reserved in the Treaty, were discovered fishing at Aspy Bay in British waters, within three marine miles of the coast, without license for that purpose, and that the vessel and cargo were thereupon seized by Capt. Tory, being a fishery officer in command of the *Ida E.*, a vessel in the service of the Government of Canada, for a breach of the provisions of the Convention, or of the Statutes in that behalf, and delivered into the custody of the principal officer of Customs at Sydney, Cape Breton. The concluding article prays for a condemnation of the vessel and cargo, as forfeited to the Crown.

"The responsive allegation admits the Convention, and the several Statutes as pleaded, raising no question thereon. It admits that the *Wampatuck*, being an American vessel, left the port of Plymouth on a fishing voyage to the Grand Bank, beyond the limits of any rights reserved by the Convention of 1818, and alleges that she was not intended to fish on the coasts or in the bays of British North America; that on the 27th day of June, while pursuing her said voyage, becoming short of water, she ran into Aspy Bay for the purpose of procuring a supply thereof, and for no other purpose whatsoever; that the master, with two of the crew, rowed ashore to get a supply of water as aforesaid, and directed the crew on board to work the vessel inshore to a convenient distance for watering, and that the master and crew were not discovered fishing within three marine miles of the coast as alleged. The sixth article, repeating the same allegations, proceeds to state further—that 'as the owners are informed, while the said master was on shore as aforesaid, the steward of the said vessel, and being one of the crew of the same, while the said vessel was lying becalmed in the said bay, did with a fishing-line, being part of the tackle of the said vessel, catch seven codfish for the purpose of cooking them, then and there, for the food of the crew of the said vessel, and not for the purpose of curing or preserving them, as part of the cargo of the said vessel; that the said fish were so caught without the knowledge, against the will, and in the absence of the master of the said vessel and part of her crew,' and for this offense only the vessel and cargo had been seized.

"I observe that this last allegation was repeated in an affidavit of one of the owners on file, and, as we must infer, was consistent with his belief at the time, and probably led to the claim being put in under the 11th and 12th sections of the Act of 1868. Had the evidence sustained it, the case would have assumed a very different complexion; but, as

we shall presently see, it is utterly at variance with the acts and the admissions of the parties on board.

"It is a remarkable circumstance that neither the master nor crew of the vessel have been examined, nor any evidence adduced on the defense, although a Commission was granted on the 7th September for that purpose. At the hearing, indeed, two papers were tendered by the Defendant's counsel—one an *ex parte* examination of Forrest E. Rollin, one of the crew, taken on the 27th September, in the State of Maine; the other, a deposition of Daniel Goodwin, the master, made on the 2nd of July—neither of which I could receive by the rules that govern this Court, and neither of which I have read. The latter, indeed, had never been filed, nor had the deponent been subjected to cross-examination.

"The case, therefore, was heard solely upon the evidence for the prosecution, consisting of the depositions of Captain Tory, Martin Sullivan, his second mate, and five others of the crew of the *Ida E.* From these it appears that the latter entered Aspy Bay about 10 o'clock on the morning of June 27th, and was engaged all day in boarding the vessels lying there; and what seems very strange, but is plainly shown, that her presence and character were known to the master and crew of the *Wampatuck*, and as one would have thought, would have made them cautious in their proceedings. She had entered the Bay on the same morning, and remained hovering about the shore all that day, about 4 or 5 miles from the *Ida E.* Gibson, one of the crew, states that Captain Tory and four of his crew, including the witness, left the *Ida E.*, between 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening to go to the *Wampatuck*, which latter vessel was then about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles or a little more from the shore. When they reached her they saw several cod-fish about 15 or 20, on deck, very lately caught—some of which were alive, jumping on the deck. They also saw some codfish lines on deck, not wound up, apparently just taken out of the water. Captain Tory states that several of the crew were engaged in fishing codfish—that they saw several codfish unsplit, very recently caught, on her deck, some of which were alive. In his cross-examination he says that he saw three or four men with lines overboard, apparently in the act of fishing, and that there were more than 8 or 10 newly caught fish on the deck,—he judged from 15 to 20. Graham states that they saw several codfish very recently caught, on the deck, some of which were alive,—saw also several codfish lines on deck, and one of the crew of the *Wampatuck* haul a line in—there were 5 or 6 men on board of her at the time. These statements are generally confirmed by the other four witnesses, and being uncontradicted, leave no doubt of the fact of a fishing within the reserved limits, for the purpose of curing and not of procuring food only, as was averred.

"The admissions of Captain Goodwin are equally emphatic. He came on board immediately after the seizure, and Sullivan heard him say that he could not blame Captain Tory,—his crew was so crazy to catch fish that they would not stop. Graham heard Captain Goodwin say that he knew he had broken the rules and was inside of the limits, and that the vessel was a lawful prize, that Captain Tory had done no more than his duty, that he could not blame him. This witness, in his cross-examination, says that about an hour after Captain Goodwin came on board he heard him say that he told the crew not to catch fish inside while he was away, but it was no use to talk, that fishermen would catch fish wherever they would get them to bite. The same witness says that he asked the crew, as they knew it was the cutter's boat coming, why they did not throw the fish overboard, and one of them said they might have

done so, but it did not come in their minds. Captain Tory testifies that Captain Goodwin repeatedly admitted to him that he was aware that their fishing in shore was a violation of the law, and pleaded that he would not be severe on him. In his cross-examination, Captain Tory says that at the time of such admissions he does not recollect Captain Goodwin saying that the fishing was done without his knowledge or against his orders. Captain Tory does not think that he said so, as witness believes the Captain was aware the *Wampatuck* went out from the harbor to fish, and that he saw her within the limits. Gibson also testifies that on their way across the Bay he heard Captain Goodwin tell Captain Tory that he could not blame him—it was not his fault—that he blamed himself, and that he knew he had violated the law.

“This mass of testimony having been open to the inspection of the defendants and their counsel since the beginning of September, it is very significant that they produced no witness in reply, and that it stood at the hearing, wholly uncontradicted. As neither want of ability, nor of zeal, can be imputed to the counsel, the necessary inference is, that the facts testified to are substantially true.

“Two or three arguments were urged at the hearing, which it is incumbent on me to notice.

“It was said that there could be no forfeiture, unless an intent to violate the law were clearly shown on the part of the prosecution. The answer is, that the intent was shown by the admissions in proof, and that, independently of the admissions, where acts are illegal, the intent is to be gathered from the acts themselves.

“It was next said that the captain of the *Ida E.* ought to have notified the master of the *Wampatuck*, but it was admitted in the same breath that notice was not required in the Statute, the Act of 1870 being somewhat more stringent in that respect than the Act of 1868, while the private instructions to the captain of the cutter were not in proof.

“The main objection, however, was, that the fishing having been done in the absence and without the authority of Capt. Goodwin, the vessel was not liable to forfeiture. Now, it is to be noted that there is no evidence, nothing under oath, of the master having prohibited, or been ignorant of, the fishing. I have stated his disclaimer as accompanying, or qualifying, his admissions; but if the prohibition or want of authority would constitute a defence, it should have been proved. It is to be observed, too, that under the shipping paper, showing a crew of nine persons in all, seven besides the skipper and salter, the men were not shipped by wages, nor by the thousand of fish caught, but were sharesmen having an interest in the voyage, and whose acts as fishermen, necessarily compromised the vessel. They were inhabitants of the United States, fishing in violation of the Treaty, and the Act of 1870 declares that if any foreign ship or vessel have been found fishing, or preparing to fish, or to have been fishing (in British waters) within the prescribed limits, such ship, vessel or boat, and the tackle, rigging, apparel, furniture, stores and cargo thereof, shall be forfeited. But supposing the doctrine as between master and servant, or as between principal and agent, to apply, for which no authority was cited, it would not avail the defendants. The last point, as to agency, was examined thoroughly in the Supreme Court of this Province, in the case of Pope vs. the Pictou Steamboat Company, in 1865, and was decided against the principal. And as to the analogy of master and servant—the responsibility of the master for the act of the servant, where, as in this case, the servant was acting within the scope of his employment, I would content myself with citing the decision of the Exchequer Chamber in the case of *Limpus vs. the General Omnibus*

Company, 7 Law Term, Reports, N. S., 641, where the rule is laid down by Blackburn, J., in these words:—‘It is agreed by all that a master is responsible for the improper act of his servant, even if it be wilful, reckless or improper, provided the act is the act of the servant in the scope of his employment, and in executing the matter for which he was engaged at the time.’

“These objections, therefore, having failed, and the fishing by the crew within the reserved limits having been abundantly proved, this Court condemns the *Wampatuck*, her tackle, apparel, furniture, stores and cargo as forfeited under the Dominion Acts, the vessel to be sold at public auction, and the proceeds to be distributed, along with the proceeds of the cargo, as directed by the Act of 1868.”

No. 3.

[Extract from the Halifax Daily Reporter and Times, Feb. 11, 1871.]

In the Vice Admiralty Court, 10th Feb’y, 1871.

The “A. H. Wanson,” Fishing Vessel.—Sir William Young, Judge Vice Admiralty.

“This is a schooner of 63 tons burthen, belonging to Gloucester, in the State of Massachusetts, sailing under an enrolment of 4th June, 1868, and a fishing license of 27th June last. On the 3rd Sept., she was seized by Capt. Carmichael, of the *Sweepstakes*, one of the Dominion cutters, for fishing within three marine miles of the coast of Cape Breton, at Broad Cove, and was libelled therefor in the usual form on the 17th. On the 19th her owners put in their responsive allegation, and at the same time her master and four of her crew were examined thereon. For the prosecution there were examined by the 30th Sept., the Captain, the first officer, three of the other officers, and ten of the crew of the *Sweepstakes*; and on the 21st and 22nd October there were examined under commission at Canso, the master and two of the seamen of the *Dusky Lake*, a fishing schooner belonging to Margaree. All the witnesses on both sides in these 23 depositions were subjected to cross-examination, and the evidence, as was perhaps to be expected, is conflicting. The case, as it will be perceived, was ready for trial by the end of October; but the intervening terms of the Supreme Court, and the incessant engagements both of Judge and Counsel rendered it impossible to bring it on for a hearing until the 4th inst. The legal principles applicable to the case having been fully discussed in that of the *Wampatuck*, the argument was confined to the effect of the evidence; and the decision will turn solely on questions of fact.

“On the 2d of September, the cutter, a sailing vessel, and scarcely distinguishable from the usual class of fishing craft, arrived at Broad Cove about ten o’clock at night, and next morning a little before 5 o’clock, according to Captain Carmichael, who is confirmed in all essential particulars by his officers and crew, he discovered a number of vessels, some say as many as 70, fishing close to them, and hove to under their mainsails. Some of these were American, and Evans, the boatswain, says he saw the captain of the American vessel nearest to them stand on the house and wave his hat to the other vessels near at hand, and they immediately hoisted their jibs and made off from shore.

None of these were caught; but Captain Carmichael discovered the *A. H. Wanson* about a third of a mile distant. She was hove to under her mainsail, with her rail manned, and fishing on the starboard side, according to the established usage. The morning was clear, and he could see the men on her deck distinctly, casting their lines and throwing bait; he also looked at her through his spyglass, and described certain marks on her to his men, that they might easily distinguish and board her. He then steered in the direction of the *A. H. Wanson*, and when about fifty yards of her, hoisted his colors, and fired a blank cartridge. The vessel then showed American colors, and Nickerson, the first officer, and boat's crew, went on board.

"Nickerson testifies that he also distinctly saw the men casting and hauling in their lines, and throwing bait, until the cutter was within three hundred yards of them. He observed them at this work for about fifteen minutes. After going on deck, he observed four lines over the rail in the water, on the starboard side; he saw several of the hooks baited with fresh bait; he saw the bait on the lines in the water after being hauled in; he also saw scales of fresh mackerel on the deck, and over the inside of the strike barrels then on the deck; also two bait-boxes, with fresh bait in them—pogies and clams. He then signalled for the captain of the Cutter, who came on board, and asked some of the crew why they did not get under weigh when they saw his vessel, having had plenty of time to get off. Some of them replied that they did not see him; they were not thinking of Cutters, only of Steamers, having arrived only the evening before. The vessel was then in 17 fathoms of water, by the lead, less than two miles from Cape Breton shore, and Sea Wolf Island bearing about North by the compass. When seized she was drifting, with mainsail guyed off, in the direction of Sea Wolf Island, forging a trifle ahead.

"It would be a waste of time to go through the depositions of the other officers and crew of the Cutter, which are more or less affirmative of, and none of them contradict the above. Jones says he saw one man forward of the main rigging throw a scoop of bait into the water. This is confirmed by five others—Grant, Langley, Cleas, Evans, and Hennesy.

"Rose says that the crew ceased casting their lines about a minute before the *Sweepstakes* rounded to. The *A. H. Wanson* was then inside of two miles from Cape Breton shore, and drifting in, in a Northwest-erly course.

"From the direction in which the Cutter came, veiling her approach, and with the Nova Scotia vessels intervening, none of the persons on board saw the fish actually taken and hauled up, and the further evidence of the three men on board the *Dusky Lake* becomes very material. Thos. E. Nickerson says there were about 100 yards from the *A. H. Wanson*, lying between her and the shore. He did not see any fish taken or caught by her, he could not see the men hauling any lines or throwing bait from the way the sails hid them, but in answer to the 11th question, he says that he saw the Cutter approaching—she approached the *A. H. Wanson* from the south-west, and the witness observed her men standing at the rail, and saw them take their strike-barrels to leeward, and throw round mackerel overboard, and when the *Sweepstakes* was rounding to, they hauled in their main sheet, and after the *Sweepstakes* fired a gun, they hoisted their colors to the main peak. The next witness, Joseph H. Grant, says the *A. H. Wanson* was lying to under mainsail and foresail; they appeared to be fishing; he did not see them catch any; as the *Sweepstakes* approached, he observed them

take their strike barrels to leeward, and throw the mackerel overboard, he could not see any one throwing bait; but saw the tole of bait in the water, as is usual when bait is throwing, in order to raise mackerel.

"By the ninth cross interrogatory he was asked 'would not any vessel drifting along use the same sails and appear in the same position as the *A. H. Wanson*? Is there anything particular in the use of their sails by vessels employed in mackerel fishing more than in any other vessels?' To which his answer is: 'I cannot say—never saw any vessel in that position unless she was fishing. There is quite a difference.' He had previously said that he had been two years engaged in the hook and line mackerel fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and was quite familiar with the way in which the fish are caught.

"The remaining witness, Thomas Roberts, who was described at the hearing as the master, says the *A. H. Wanson* was lying north-west, and about 200 yards from the *Dusky Lake*, they (that is the men of the *A. H. Wanson*) catching mackerel, lying head to the southward, under her mainsail. They were fishing, and the witness saw them catch fish—mackerel. She was inside of three miles. He further says:—'I observed lines on the starboard side. I saw the men handling the lines—sixteen or seventeen men. They hauled them in with fish on them, and slatted them off, and threw them out again. . . . I saw them throwing bait in the manner usual for attracting mackerel.' In his thirteenth answer, he says: 'I can positively swear they were catching mackerel, and were within three marine miles of the shores of Cape Breton.' When the *Sweepstakes* ran down upon them from the south-west they gave up fishing, and carried their strike-barrels to leeward, and threw the fish overboard.' In answer to the eleventh and thirteenth cross-interrogatories, he says: 'I saw them heaving bait, casting lines, catching mackerel, and dumping them overboard, and coiling up their lines. They were slatting fish off of their lines after hauling them in.'

"Let us consider the effect of this mass of evidence, which I have gone into with a particularity very unusual with me, and only to be justified by the nature of the charge, and the necessity of vindicating every judgment that is pronounced. Here is a fleet of vessels, Nova Scotian and American, on a fine clear morning, busily engaged in fishing, the mackerel rising all around, and no hostile cutter supposed to be near. The Americans think little of the prohibition which the new and more vigorous policy of the Dominion has imposed. They are impatient of the exclusive right claimed by the Canadian people on the principles of international law, and the faith of treaties; and violate it without scruples whenever the opportunity occurs. Hence the eagerness, and the openness too, with which these American fishermen are plying their task on this particular morning. What should we say, if we were told that one vessel only was virtuous or strong enough to resist the temptations, and to hold their hands from touching their neighbour's goods? The captain of the *Wampatuck*, when caught in the act, excused himself, on the ground, that his crew were so crazy to catch fish, that they would not stop. But, here on the decks of the *A. H. Wanson* was a model crew, who would not catch mackerel within the three miles, though swarming around them. That is the sole defence in this case. They admit that they were within three miles of the shore—that they were lying guyed off under mainsail, and with their anchor up, heading south-south east towards the shore in the very position for fishing—they were not aware of the arrival of the cutter—and yet they would have this Court believe that they were not fishing. It would be a great stretch of credulity to believe this in the absence of evidence to the con-

trary. But with the mass of testimony just recited—the 8 or 10 men upon the rail—the casting and hauling in of the mackerel lines—the throwing of bait—the emptying of the strike barrels on the approach of the cutter, and the clear and positive evidence of three disinterested witnesses from the *Dusky Lake*—what is to said of such a defence? In the face of it all, the master and four of the crew of the *A. H. Wanson*—five out of the 16 or 17 men, said to be on board, have sworn that said schooner, or the captain or crew thereof, did not fish, or prepare to fish, within three marine miles of the coasts, bays, harbors, or creeks of Canada, or of that part of the coasts and bays thereof known as Broadcove and as Seawolf Island on the north-west coast of Cape Breton, on the 3rd day of September last, or at any other time during said season. This might be supposed to be a mere formal denial, repeated, however wrongfully and incautiously, by all five, in the very words of the responsive allegation, but in the body of their evidence they assert that none of the men were fishing, or had been fishing that morning, or at any time after going into Broadcove, or were preparing to fish. By what strange casuistry these men reconcile such an assertion to their consciences, and sense of right, it is difficult to tell. The human mind practices singular delusions upon itself, and the spectacle of conflicting evidence is only too common in courts of justice. It is enough, in the present case, to say that the evidence for the prosecution is overwhelming and irresistible. The allegation that the men were only clearing out their tangled lines, besides being inconsistent with the usage and habits of expert fishermen, is wholly insufficient to account for the actions of these men while on the rail, as seen and testified to by so many of the witnesses.

“I pronounce therefore, for the condemnation of the *A. H. Wanson*, her tackle, apparel, furniture, stores, and cargo, as forfeited under the Dominion Acts, and the same having been bailed at the appraised value of \$3,500, I direct that the amount shall be paid into court, to be distributed as directed by the Act of 1868. I pronounce also for the costs secured by the first bond, on the defence being put in.”

No. 4.

[Extract from the Halifax Daily Reporter and Times, February 13th, 1871.]

IN THE VICE ADMIRALTY COURT, 10TH FEB'Y, 1871.

The “A. J. Franklin.”—Sir William Young, Judge Vice Admiralty.

“This is a schooner of 53 tons burthen, owned at Gloucester, in the State of Massachusetts, under an enrolment of 4th February, 1868, and sailing under a fishing license of 28th January, 1870. Attached to her papers are also printed copies of the Treasury Circulars issued at Washington on 16th May and 9th June last, apprising the owners and masters of fishing vessels of the first article of the Treaty of 1818, of the Dominion acts of 1868 and 1870, and of the equipment of Canadian sailing vessels for the enforcement thereof. This vessel—the *A. J. Franklin*—having been warned by Captain Tory, of the cutter *Ida E.*, against fishing within the prescribed limits, and having been found on the 11th October in the midst of a mackerel fleet at Broad Cove, was overhauled and visited by the cutter, and was then let go; but, on further informa-

tion that she had been fishing on that day, she was seized on the 15th October, in the Strait of Canso, and libelled in the usual form on the 2nd November, and a responsive allegation put in. The vessel and cargo were afterward liberated on bail at the appraised value of \$2,500, and depositions were taken both sides, and cross-interrogatories filed. Some irregularities appear on the face of them, which were waived by consent as endorsed, and the case came before me on the 6th instant, on the pleadings, and eighteen depositions, those of the master, second mate, and six of the crew of the *Ida E.*, and of six of the crew of two Lunenburg vessels, produced on the part of the prosecution, and those of the first mate of the *Ida E.*, and of the master and two of the crew of the *A. J. Franklin*, produced on the defence.

"Captain Tory states that on the morning of the 11th October, he saw the mackerel fleet close to the shore in Broad Cove, engaged in fishing, and having run outside until he got about midway, he fired a blank shot, for the purpose of ascertaining, by their returning the signal, what vessels were British and what not. The *A. J. Franklin* then came out from the centre of the fleet, and immediately set all sail and ran direct from the land, as if trying to avoid detection. To prevent her escape the captain ordered a shot to be fired across her bow, when she hauled down her jib, and hove to. The two vessels were then about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Marsh Point in Broad Cove, and less than 2 miles from Sea Wolf Island. The captain at once boarded the *A. J. Franklin*, and found some mackerel lines coiled up on the rail that were wet, the hooks attached thereto being newly or fresh baited, and fresh fish-blood and mackerel gills on deck; he saw also other lines coiled up under the rail, which were dry. Captain Tory charged Captain Nass with fishing that morning inside the limits, and he admitted that he was lying to with his jib down and sheets off when the first gun was fired, but denied that he had caught any mackerel. He said, however, that he had caught two or three codfish. He accounted for his lines being so recently wet by the washing of the deck. His attention was then called to the gills, blood, and bait on deck, but no fresh mackerel being found, and Nass solemnly denying having caught any, and appealing to two vessels, which he named, for confirmation of his statement, Capt. Tory released him, warning him, however, that if he ascertained that he had been fishing, or trying to fish, within the limits that morning, that he would seize him wherever he caught him, within three miles of the coast.

"This statement is confirmed by the other men who boarded the vessel with Capt. Tory. Matson thinks the *A. J. Franklin* was not more than one and a-half miles from the shore when they first saw her. Nass at first denied that he had his jib down, but afterwards admitted it, and said he was waiting to see if the other vessels caught any mackerel. Although this circumstance, and his being so near the shore were suspicious, it is obvious that on the facts as they then appeared, the seizure of the vessel could not have been justified, especially if it be true, as stated in the defendants' evidence, that she was then outside of the three miles.

"The evidence of the Lunenburg men is, therefore, very material, and we must see what it amounts to. There were two vessels, the *Cherub* and the *Nimble*, and the *A. J. Franklin* lay within 60 to 100 yards of them. The crews spoke together while trying to fish. Arnburg saw three of the crew of the *A. J. Franklin* fishing,—saw them catch codfish—three he is sure of; she was in the position to catch mackerel, and was then about a mile from the shore. The witness saw no mackerel caught, and no fish thrown overboard. Rodenizer states that the *A. J.*

Franklin and his vessel lay 100 yards apart. The skipper of the *A. J. Franklin* said "mackerel were scarce; he did not do much yet." He was at the bait box. The crew were preparing for fishing on the starboard side, which is the invariable usage. David Heckman says "we were on the starboard bow of the *A. J. Franklin*. She had her mackerel lines out, and they were heaving bait. She continued trying for mackerel till after the *Ida E.* fired the second time, when the crew hauled in their mackerel lines, hoisted jib, trimmed their sails, and stood off out from the fleet, and set staysail. Thomas Herman says, four of the crew of the *A. J. Franklin* were fishing for cod-fish—the skipper was throwing bait for mackerel, and threw his mackerel lines—others were on the rail on the starboard side, looking over. She was hove to, jib down, foresail and mainsail up, and sheets off on port side. Peter Heckman states that he saw some of the crew of the *A. J. Franklin* trying to catch mackerel—they threw their lines over the starboard side—they threw bait over to raise mackerel—they were throwing bait with lines over, trying for mackerel, as the *Ida E.* approached—the crew after she fired, hauled in the lines, hoisted jib, and stood off the shore. The crew cheered and shouted as they got out of the fleet, and set their staysail. George W. Nass says that he saw some of the crew of the *A. J. Franklin* heaving bait, and they had mackerel lines out on the starboard side. She was hove to, jib down, mainsail and foresail to port, as is usual in fishing for mackerel—she was then within two miles of Broad Cove shore, and about three miles to the westward of Seawolf Island. When the *Ida E.* came from the westward, the witness heard skipper Nass call out something to one of the other vessels—the reply to him was that it was one of the cutters. The *A. J. Franklin* then hauled in her mackerel lines, and hoisted her jib, and stood to the northward, and then set her staysail.

"Neither this witness nor any of the others ever saw any mackerel caught, nor any fish thrown over from the *A. J. Franklin*.

"The case for the prosecution is strengthened by certain declarations of the crew, which were not objected to at the hearing, and being against their interest as sharesmen, are receivable, I think, in evidence.

"Captain Tory testifies that he heard several of the crew of the *A. J. Franklin* say on the day of the seizure at the Strait of Canso, that after he left their vessel at Broad Cove, they advised Captain Nass to clear out of the Bay, and go immediately home—that Capt. Tory would find out they had been fishing, and seize them, and that they would lose their fish, to which Capt. Nass replied, that he would like to try a few days longer—that Capt. Tory had been aboard, and was not likely to trouble them again, or such like words.

"Sullivan heard one of the crew make a like declaration; and McMaster heard one of the crew say, that after the *A. J. Franklin* was seized, that they had caught mackerel the morning Capt. Tory boarded them off Broad Cove.

"Of the depositions for the defence, that of Regis Raimond, who was first mate of the *Ida E.*, merely repeats what has been already stated—that Capt. Tory, after he boarded the *A. J. Franklin*, assigned as his reason for not seizing her, that he had found no fish taken that morning, and did not think they had been fishing. The seizure, obviously, resulted from information subsequently received.

"The depositions of Capt. Nass and two of his crew, go much further, and deny a fishing or preparing to fish altogether. They allege that the jib was let down to prevent their running into another vessel that was ahead. On no day, say they, between the 1st and 15th October, had

the *A. J. Franklin*, or any of her crew been fishing or preparing to fish, or had fished, within three marine miles of the North West coast of Cape Breton. On the morning of the 11th they sailed from Port Hood towards Broadcove. After hoisting their jib to go to East Point, and having got outside of the fleet, a gun was fired from the *Ida E.* They continued on their course, and after running about half-a-mile, a second gun was fired, when the *A. J. Franklin* hove to, and was boarded, and, after enquiry, was let go. This is the substance of Captain Nass's affidavit, who states also that Captain Tory was doubtful or reluctant to serve him, and in his statement of what occurred on the 11th he is confirmed by Morash and Mitchell.

"These three deponents, in fact, are in direct conflict with the six men who have given evidence from Lunenburg. All the minute circumstances they have detailed—the first, that the *A. J. Franklin* was in the centre of the fleet,—that, within 100 yards of the Nova Scotia vessels she was in the position for fishing, throwing bait to attract the mackerel, and with her lines down,—her hasty retreat on the approach of the cutter—all are to be rejected as fabrications, and the six witnesses from Lunenburg, who have no interest in the matter, to be disbelieved. I need not say that no Court could come to such a conclusion, and for all the purposes of this suit, the evidence of these Lunenburg men must be taken as substantially true.

"To what result, then, does it tend. On the charge of preparing to fish—a phrase to be found in all the British and Colonial Acts, but not in the treaty—I shall say little in this judgment, because it will be the main enquiry in the judgment I am to pronounce in a few days in the far more important case of the *J. H. Nickerson*. Had I considered the facts in this case to amount to nothing more than a preparing to fish, I would have postponed my decision until the other was prepared and delivered. But I look upon the throwing of bait—the heaving to with sheets off, and the jib down, and the vessel thus lying in the position to catch mackerel, with the mackerel lines out, and hauled in on the approach of the cutter—these circumstances, coupled with the declaration and actions of Captain Nass, bring the case clearly, as I think, within the meaning of the Dominion Acts of 1868 and 1870, as a fishing, and subject the vessel and her cargo to forfeiture, although no mackerel are proved, except by the declarations of the crew, to have been taken. If I am wrong in this conclusion, an appeal to the High Court of Admiralty, under the Imperial Act of 1863, will afford the Defendants redress, and I shall not be sorry to see such appeal prosecuted. Or the Dominion Government may see fit to relieve from the penalty in whole or in part, as they have a right to do, under the Act of 1868, Sec. 19. Personally, I may say—if a Judge has a right to express any personal feeling—as the vessel was appraised at \$800, and the cargo, in which the crew were largely interested, at a much larger sum, I would be well pleased to see the penalty in this case largely mitigated.

"It is not the policy, as I take it, of the Dominion Government, nor is it the disposition of this Court, to press with undue severity upon the American fishermen, even when they trench upon our undoubted rights. The Court has been accused, I am told, of condemning the *Wampatuck*, because the steward, in the absence of the master, had caught seven codfish within the limits, for the purposes of cooking. Such, it is true, was the defence that was set up, and, had it been established, there would certainly have been no condemnation. But the evidence showed that there was a fishing by three or four men, having lines overboard, as was admitted by the master, and several codfish caught for the pur-

pose of curing, and not of procuring food only, as was averred. So, in this case, three or four codfish are admitted to have been taken within the limits; but I have not taken that circumstance at all into account, considering it too trifling to be a ground of condemnation.

"In the case of the *Reward*,—2 Dodson Adm. Repts., 269, 270—Sir William Scott, observed:

"The Court is not bound to a strictness at once harsh and pedantic in the application of Statutes. The Court permits the qualification implied in the ancient maxim, '*De minimus non curat lex*.' When there are irregularities of very slight consequence, it does not intend that the infliction of penalties should be inflexibly severe. If the deviation were a mere trifle, (and the catching of a few codfish for a meal is such), weighing little or nothing in the public interest, it might properly be overlooked."

"Upon the other grounds, however, on which I have enlarged, I conceive it my duty to declare the *A. J. Franklin*, her apparel and cargo, forfeited, with costs, and her value, when collected from the Bail, distributed under the Act of 1868."

No. 5.

[Extract from the Halifax Daily Reporter and Times, Novr. 15, 1871.]

In the Vice Admiralty Court, 1871.

The "J. H. Nickerson."

"Sir William Young, Judge Vice Admiralty, pronounced the following judgment in the above cause:—

"This is an American Fishing vessel of seventy tons burthen, owned at Salem, Massachusetts, and sailing under a Fishing License issued by the Collector of that Port, and dated March 25th, A. D., 1869. In the month of June 1870, she was seized by Captain Tory of the Dominion Schooner *Ida E.*, while in the North Bay of Ingonish, Cape Breton, about three or four cable lengths from the shore; and it appeared the offense charged against her was that she had run into that Bay for the purpose of procuring bait, had persisted in remaining there for that purpose after warning to depart therefrom, and not to return, and had procured or purchased bait while there. This case, therefore, differs essentially from the cases I have already decided. It comes within the charge of preparing to fish—a phrase to be found in all the British and Colonial Acts, but not in the Treaty of 1818. In giving judgment 10th February last, in the case of the *A. J. Franklin*, I referred to the case in hand, and stated that I would pronounce judgment in this also in a few days, which I was prepared to do. But it was intimated to the Court that some compromise or settlement might possibly take place in reference to the instructions that had been issued from time to time to the cruisers, and to the negotiations pending between the two Governments, and I have accordingly suspended judgment until now, when it has been formally moved for.

"The same arguments were urged at the hearing of this cause as in the case of the *Wampatuck* on the wisdom of the Treaty of 1818, and some severe strictures were passed on the spirit and tendency of the Two Dominion Acts of 1868 and 1870. To all such arguments and strictures the same answer must be given in this as in my former judgments.

The libel sets out in separate articles these two acts with the treaty, and the Imperial Acts of 1819 and 1867, all of which are admitted without any questions raised thereon in the responsive allegation. I must take them, therefore, both on general principles and on the pleading, as binding on this court; and it is of no consequence whether the judge approves or disapproves of them. A judge may sometimes intimate a desire that the enactments he is called upon to enforce should be modified or changed; but until they are repealed in whole or in part, they constitute the law, which it is his business and his duty to administer.

“Our present enquiry is, what was the law as it stood on the Statute Book on the 30th of June, 1870, when the seizure was made? The court, as I take it, has nothing to do with the instructions of the government to its officers, and which, if in their possession on that day, might have induced them to abstain from the seizure of this vessel, or may induce the government now to exercise the power conferred on them by the 19th section of the Acts of 1868.

“But before pursuing this inquiry, let us first of all ascertain the facts as they appear in evidence. For the prosecution, there were exhibited the examinations duly taken under the rules of 1859, of Capt. Tory and thirteen of his crew, all of whom were examined on cross-interrogatories.

“Capt. Tory testifies that he boarded the vessel at Ingonish, on the 25th of June, and the master being on shore, that he asked the crew then on board, what they were doing there, and they said they were after bait, and had procured some while they were there after coming in, and wanted more. About an hour after he saw the master, and told him he had violated the law, that he had no power to allow the vessel to remain, and that he had better leave. On the 26th the vessel was still there in the harbor, and Capt. Tory boarded her and saw fresh herring bait in the ice house; and Capt. McDonald, the master, admitted that he had procured said bait since his arrival; and he afterwards admitted that he had violated the law, and hoped that Captain Tory would not be too severe with him; and as he promised to leave with his vessel, Capt. Tory did not then seize her. She went to sea the same night, but on the 30th was found again at anchor in the same place where Capt. Tory boarded her; and judging from the appearance of her deck, that she had very recently procured more bait, which he saw the next morning, he seized her. In his cross-examination, he says that the herrings he saw on the first occasion in the ice-house on board were fresh, but had been a night or two in the nets, which caused them to be a little damaged; and were large, fat herring, and similar to those caught in the vicinity of Ingonish at that season of the year. The herrings he saw on the second occasion were also fresh, newly caught, with blood on them, of the same description, except that they were sound.

“This evidence, in its main features, is confirmed by several of the crew. Grant went into the ice-house by order of his captain, and there saw about five or six barrels of fresh herring bait and a few fresh mackerel. There were scales of fresh fish on the rails, from which witness judged that they had taken fish that morning. Capt. Tory then seized the “Nickerson” and placed witness on board as one of the crew, to take her to North Sydney, the captain of the “Nickerson” remaining on board. Witness, on the passage, heard said captain say (and this several of the other men confirm in words to the like effect) that he had purchased 700 or 800 herrings that morning. He also said that he wanted more bait,—that it was of no use going out with that much. McMaster says that on the passage to Sydney, he heard some of the

crew of the "Nickerson" say that they had bought seven barrels of fresh herring bait that morning and that they wanted more. Four of the seamen testify to another conversation with Captain McDonald, in which he said he would not have come in a second time had he known the cutter was at hand, that all the bait he had would not bait his trawls once, and that it was not worth while for him to go off to the Banks with that much. These depositions were taken on the 1st of September, 1870, and the only reply is the examination of John Wills, the steward of the "Nickerson," taken in October under a commission at Boston, which undertakes to deny altogether the purchasing or procuring bait,—nullifying the numerous admissions in proof and supporting the responsive allegation as a whole. Neither the master nor any of the crew of the "J. H. Nickerson" were examined, and I need scarcely say that the evidence of the steward alone, as opposed to the mass of testimony I have cited, is unworthy of credit.

"It being, then, clearly established that the "J. H. Nickerson" entered a British port and was anchored within three marine miles of the coast off Cape Breton, for the purpose of purchasing or procuring bait, and did there purchase or procure it in June, 1870, the single question arises on the Treaty of 1818 and the Acts of the Imperial and Dominion Parliaments. —Is this a sufficient ground for seizure and condemnation? This was said at the hearing to be a test case,—the most important that had come before the Court since the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854. But it has lost much of its importance since the hearing in February, and the present aspect of the question would scarcely justify the elaborate review which might otherwise have been reasonably expected. If the law should remain as it is, and the instructions issued from Downing street on the 30th of April and by the Dominion Government on the 27th June, 1870, as communicated to Parliament, were to continue, no future seizure like the present could occur; and if the Treaty of 1818 and the Acts consequent thereon are superseded, this judgment ceases to have any value beyond its operation on the case in hand.

"The first Article of the Convention of 1818 must be construed, as all other instruments are, with a view to the surrounding circumstances and according to the plain meaning of the words employed. The subtleties and refinements that have been applied to it will find little favor with a Court governed by the rules of sound reason, nor will it attach too much value to the protocols and drafts or the history of the negotiations that preceded it. We must assume that it was drawn by able men and ratified by the governments of two great powers, who knew perfectly well what they were respectively gaining or conceding, and took care to express what they meant. After a formal renunciation by the United States of the liberty of fishing, theretofore enjoyed or claimed, within the prescribed limits of three marine miles of any of our bays or harbors, they guard themselves by this proviso: 'Provided, however, that the American fishermen shall be admitted to enter such bays or harbors for the purpose of shelter and repairing damage therein, of purchasing wood and of obtaining water, and for no other purpose whatever. But they shall be under such restrictions as may be necessary to prevent them taking, drying or curing fish therein, or in any other manner whatever abusing the privileges hereby reserved to them.'

"These privileges are explicitly and clearly defined, and to make assurance doubly sure, they are accompanied by a negative declaration excluding any other purpose beyond the purpose expressed. I confine myself to the single point that is before me. There is no charge here

of taking fish for bait or otherwise, nor of drying or curing fish, nor of obtaining supplies or trading. The defendants allege that the "Nickerson" entered the Bay of Ingonish and anchored within three marine miles of the shore for the purpose of obtaining water and taking off two of her men who had friends on shore. Neither the master nor the crew on board thereof, in the words of the responsive allegation, "fishing, preparing to fish, nor procuring bait wherewith to fish, nor having been fishing in British waters, within three marine miles of the coast." Had this been proved, it would have been a complete defense, nor would the Court have been disposed to narrow it as respects either water, provisions or wood. But the evidence conclusively shows that the allegation put in is untrue. The defendants have not claimed in their plea what their counsel claimed at the hearing, and their evidence has utterly failed them. The vessel went in, not to obtain water or men, as the allegation says, nor to obtain water and provisions, as their witness says; but to purchase or procure bait (which, as I take it, is a preparing to fish), and it was contended that they had a right to do so, and that no forfeiture accrued on such entering. The answer is, that if a privilege to enter our harbors for bait was to be conceded to American fishermen, it ought to have been in the Treaty, and it is too important a matter to have been accidentally overlooked. We know, indeed, from the State Papers that it was not overlooked,—that it was suggested and declined. But the court, as I have already intimated, does not insist upon that as a reason for its judgment. What may be justly and fairly insisted on is that beyond the four purposes specified in the Treaty—shelter, repairs, water and wood,—here is another purpose or claim not specified; while the treaty itself declares that no such other purpose or claim shall be received to justify an entry. It appears to me an inevitable conclusion that the "J. H. Nickerson," in entering the Bay of Ingonish for the purpose of procuring bait, and evincing that purpose by purchasing or procuring bait while there, became liable to forfeiture, and upon the true construction of the Treaty and Acts of Parliament, was legally seized.

"I direct, therefore, the usual decree to be filed for condemnation of vessel and cargo, and for distribution of the proceeds according to the Dominion Act of 1871."

APPENDIX Q.

TESTIMONY IN REBUTTAL ON BEHALF OF HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

No. 1.

THURSDAY, *October 25.*

The Conference met.

Prof. HENRY YOULE HIND was called on behalf of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, sworn and examined.

By Mr. Thomson :

Question. Have you made a specialty of examining into marine matters, the effect of tides and winds, the habits of fish, and such things ?—
Answer. Yes.

Q. For a number of years back ?—A. Yes; for a number of years, more particularly from the year 1861.

Q. You devoted your attention specially to that subject ?—A. Yes; especially to the subject of marine physics or ocean physics.

Q. Do you belong to any learned society ?—A. No; not any specially learned society.

Q. Now, Mr. Hind, you have made a special study of the action of the Arctic current on the American coast and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence ?—A. Yes.

Q. Also the effect of the Gulf Stream ?—A. Yes; I have.

Q. Well, now, you have also, I believe, paid attention to the habits of the mackerel and cod ?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, take the mackerel. Will you state, if you please, in your judgment, what is the habit of the fish in reference to hibernating ?—
A. I think there can be little, if any doubt, that the mackerel, in all our seas, and in some European seas, hibernates, or passes a certain period of the winter in a condition of torpidity in sand banks or mud holes, either close inshore, or far off the coast. For instance, on various parts of the Nova Scotia coast, they have been taken from the mud through the ice, in the act of spearing for eels, as, for instance, on our immediate shore at St. Margaret's Bay, and the Bay of Inhabitants in Cape Breton. They have also been found on the coast of Newfoundland at Christmas, driven ashore there by the ice, or the wind, with what the fishermen call a scale over the eyes. I need scarcely say there is no such thing as a scale, in the ordinary sense of the term, but this is a film that forms over the eyes, and can always be seen in the spring of the year. The object of this film is evidently to protect the eye of the animal during their winter torpidity from parasitic crustaceans. There is an order of parasitic animals in the Northern Seas, specially belonging to the class of Lernæida, which attack the eyes of fishes, particularly the eyes of the shark. You very rarely, for instance, get a shark, without finding one of these parasitical creatures attached to the eye. They feed on the eye as others do upon the gills, and it appears to me that the object of this film is specially to protect the eye when the head is partially immersed in the mud or sand.

Q. From that you infer that the mackerel is not what is ordinarily termed a migratory fish ?—A. No; it is a local fish, frequenting the

waters in which it is brought forth. They may have a local run of 40 or 50 miles, their general run being in the form of a circle or eclipse, like most other fish.

Q. Then take the Gulf of St. Lawrence; all the mackerel born there remain?—A. I believe all the mackerel which are found in the gulf are exclusively a home fish.

Q. And the same is true on the American coast?—A. Yes; and all other coasts, France, Labrador, Newfoundland, and wherever they are found hibernating. I may mention that on the coast of France they are not unfrequently taken from the sand by means of a trawl-net during the winter. Blanchiere describes them being taken out of the mud or sand by means of ordinary trawls. I speak now of the beam-trawl, which drags over the surface of the sand, very similar to the one on the Speedwell, but not suspended on the two iron heads which you observe in the Speedwell's trawl. By means of this trawl dragging over the surface, shell-fish and others, mackerel for instance, are taken up.

Q. Does the mackerel require a particular temperature of water to live? From what points of temperature does it range?—A. From observations made in regard to its spawning you will find that it always spawns, as far as can be known, in waters of nearly the same temperature, a temperature characterized by its lowness. Whenever it spawns, there is either an Arctic current, or some current which gives a temperature between 37° and 43° .

Q. Then it is only between 5° and 11° above the freezing point?—A. Yes; about that temperature.

Q. What about the cod; is it a fish that requires a low temperature?—A. With regard to the spawning of cod, it always seeks the coldest water wherever ice is not present. In all the spawning-grounds from the Strait of Belle Isle down to Massachusetts Bay, and they are very numerous indeed, they spawn during almost all seasons of the year, and always in those localities where the water is coldest, verging on the freezing point. That is, the freezing point of fresh water, not of salt, because there is a vast difference between the two.

Q. Now state, if you please, how the tides run in the Bay of St. Lawrence, and the effect which they have upon the fish that require cold water?—A. In order to describe the effect of the tides upon the cold water I must first describe the remarkable condition which exists in all seas, and particularly in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, namely, the temperature zones in the ocean. Very frequently you will find a warm stratum underlying the cold. This has been known for a period of about 30 years in the gulf. It was discovered first by Admiral Bayfield, and the discovery carried to a further degree by Dr. Kelly. Their reports were published, but unfortunately did not attract the attention they merited. But recently, since the Challenger expedition and the investigations of Dr. Carpenter and Sir Wyville Thomson, and more particularly since the Norwegian discoveries and the Swedish discoveries in the Baltic Sea, extraordinary attention has been devoted to the subject of zones of temperature in the sea. They are considered to afford a key to the movements of fishes. Very recently it has been announced with triumph that zones of temperature had been discovered in the Baltic Sea. This fact was discovered 30 years ago, and was then known to exist in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Q. Now explain if you please the effect of the Arctic current.—A. The effect of every current in the ocean is to bring the cold stratum of water, which lies at a depth of ten or fifteen or twenty fathoms, near to the surface; and one reason why on Orphan and Bradley Banks the

water is invariably cold is, that the temperature is thus affected by the currents which bring the cold water to the surface. That is the reason why the water is always 14° or 16° colder on the Grand Banks than in the surrounding deep sea, simply because the cold Arctic current is forced up and is brought to the surface. On the Georges shoals the marine life is that of 40° . So also in the spawning grounds of the mackerel in Massachusetts Bay, a tongue of the Arctic current produces a cold temperature there of about 40° .

With reference to the tidal wave I will refer to a diagram. The great tidal wave at the full and change of the moon strikes the entrance of the gulf about half past eight in the morning. As this tidal wave enters the gulf it is split into two parts by the Magdalen Islands. One part pursues its course between Cape Breton and the Magdalen group, and reaches the southern part of Prince Edward Island at ten o'clock. The other portion passes around to the north of the Magdalen Islands, and over the 60-fathom line of soundings, becoming slower and slower in motion until it reaches this point (referring to Escumencac on map), at four o'clock, and the next point (Richibucto), at six o'clock, and the next point at eight, and finally it meets the wave which came in between the Magdalen Islands and Cape Breton twelve hours before. It meets it at a point in the Straits of Northumberland. In precisely the same way the two tidal waves, one twelve hours later than the other, meet at a point marked on this chart on the north side of Prince Edward Island. You will find the words "tides meet." That is to say, the tidal wave twelve hours old meets the incoming tidal wave at this point and produces constant high water. There is only one other place where the phenomenon is well known to any great extent, that is, in the German Ocean, where the tidal wave rushing up the English Channel meets the wave twelve, eighteen, or twenty-four hours old in the German Ocean and produces a permanent high tide. According to Admiral Bayfield, the tides here (pointing to Northumberland on map) are two or three times higher than they would be if there was not this meeting of the tidal wave. Bayfield says it is twice the normal height and in some instances three times. The effect of it is that any vessel entering the Strait of Northumberland with the flood tide goes with the tide to the point where the tides meet, and goes on in the same course on the ebb tide all the way through. It comes in with the flood and goes on with the ebb. The numbers on the map indicate the time at which the tide passes, and refer only to the full and change of the moon. The hours would differ between those periods, but at the full and change of the moon it is high water as indicated by these figures.

Now with regard to the tidal wave that runs up the gulf and produces very remarkable phenomena, I must here draw attention to the fact that the channel of the gulf has an average depth of 300 to 250 feet. All of those depths are not marked on the chart, because owing to the observations which have been made under the instructions of the Ministers of Marine and Fisheries by Mr. Whiteaves and others, much greater depths than are here marked have been discovered. For example, there is a depth of 313 fathoms discovered by Mr. Whiteaves, and other depths of 250 and 200 fathoms. Under all circumstances the depth of the channel varies from 250 to 300 fathoms up as far north as Point Des Monts. The fact is, the tidal wave rushes with great rapidity up this channel, and also with great volume; but when it reaches the contracted channel between Point Des Monts and Cape Chatte, the strait is too narrow for the whole body of water to pass through, and while one portion passes through the other returns by an eddy flood

tide all the way down the coast to Gaspé. So that a vessel can sail at the full or change of the moon up the center of this deep water passage and reach Point Des Monts at precisely 12 o'clock, and she may turn around then and go with the eddy flood and down to Gaspé by the same flood tide, which reaches Gaspé at 1.30 p. m.

Q. Now, the effect of that tide is to throw every floating object close inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. And in some way it has the effect of washing the food of fishes inshore?—A. Yes.

Q. Is the peculiar shape of Prince Edward Island due to that?—A. Yes; that is the geological cause of the peculiar bend in the island. It is the result of the ages of action of the tide upon the soft sand-stone rock, which it has cut and carried out to sea.

Q. Now, the other portion of the tidal wave which flows over into this part of the gulf is split into two parts by the island of Anicosti?—A. One portion runs inshore with great velocity, but is only felt three leagues outside. There is no sign of a tide three leagues outside, according to Admiral Bayfield, owing to the circumstances of the great tidal wave coming up here. The result is that this tidal wave being retarded by friction along the coast, it arrives at Point Des Monts at a period entered upon the map as two hours and ten minutes, meeting the ebb tide coming down the Gulf of St. Lawrence, which fills up this space. The consequence is that the food of fish and floating objects, generally, are all thrown inshore around that portion of the estuary. Its influence is especially marked with regard to the launce, of which we have heard a good deal recently.

Q. Have you been along that shore yourself?—A. I have walked along a considerable portion of that shore, from the Moisie River to Seven Islands, along a magnificent beach, and have watched the mackerel wait, as it were, until the flood tide came in for the lance to come out of the sand, just as the cod are known to watch on the coast of Sweden until the flood tide drives the crabs out of the rocks and holes, when they feed upon them.

Q. Then, if I understand you, the effect of this tide is to drive the food inshore and all other floating objects?—A. Yes.

Q. Then, along the northern coast of the St. Lawrence, including the coast of Labrador?—A. I don't say anything about this portion of the coast of Labrador.

Q. Then, from the Seven Islands at all events?—A. From Mingan, which lies considerably to the east of Point Des Monts, it is all driven inshore.

Q. What is the food of the mackerel?—A. It consists chiefly, first of all, of launce and small crustaceans.

Q. Well, there is a little fish spoken of by witnesses, called britt?—A. That is a popular name given to what is called the "eyebait," and appears to be the young of the common herring. Although, some few years ago, it was considered to be of a different species from that.

Q. They say it is red in color?—A. I don't know of any britt being red colored. Perhaps you speak of the so-called cayenne; that is a small crustacean. It occurs sometimes, in fact frequently, in such vast multitudes as to give a distinct color to the sea.

Q. They say the mackerel eat it?—A. Yes; certainly; their stomachs are sometimes distended with it.

Q. At all events they eat the launce fish and bait. What other food of the mackerel is brought inshore?—A. A great many of the minute marine animals called pteropods, similar to the crustaceans.

Q. Are the squid brought inshore also?—A. Not necessarily. The squid is a free swimming animal, but the mackerel food, which consists very largely of these crustaceans, is brought in around the north and south shores of the river Saint Lawrence and the north shore of Prince Edward Island.

Q. It brings in the floating seaweed as well?—A. Yes; in fact everything floating is brought in around this coast.

Q. Knowing the habits of the mackerel, would you say that necessarily all along that shore must be peculiar haunts for them?—A. Yes.

Q. And within three miles?—A. Generally within three miles the food is brought. Then there is another point which has of course to be taken into consideration, namely, the temperature zones. That is a special reason why off the coast in the gulf the mackerel finds its food so near inshore.

Q. Explain that.—A. If you will allow me to exhibit a diagram I can explain it, because it shows what is meant by temperature zones in the gulf. I have here a diagrammatic section of the gulf between the two points—Anticosti across Bradley Bank to Prince Edward Island. It is a vertical section, showing the temperature zones according to observations made very many years ago in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, for example in the years 1832 and 1836, by Admiral Bayfield and Dr. Kelly. They found a series of temperature zones. At 10 fathoms it would be 37° , at 30 fathoms 39° , at 50 fathoms 33° , at 110 fathoms 36° . They were so much surprised at this that they made repeated trials by bringing up the water from the bottom. The mode in which the Swedes and Norwegians effect the same purpose is by the using of a new thermometer. The second temperature table gives the temperature at the surface 51° , at 10 fathoms 38° , at 30 fathoms 32.5 , at 50 fathoms 33° , at 80 fathoms 34° , at 110 fathoms 35 degrees.

I am indebted to Professor Baird for the last Swedish observations which give temperature in the Baltic Sea.

The effect of all this is to show where the fish go. They go into the warm or cold zones. It shows also where the food goes during the summer season. The mackerel may for particular years seem to have disappeared, but there is no doubt they are there, but they are in a different zone of water. They are in the zones suited to their different habits or to the food they follow. You have a positive proof of that in the toll-bait used by the American fishermen. They throw toll out. Now, the mackerel are not lying on the bottom, but are in the zone that is suited to their habits. They come to the surface when the bait is thrown, and stay there as long as they can bear the surface temperature, and then go down again.

Q. When the Americans throw their pogie bait they toll them up; then if they cannot stand the temperature they afterwards disappear?—A. Yes.

Q. Now along the shore is the water uniform, or as a rule does it vary between the degrees of 45 and 37° ?—A. I could not state precisely the temperature, but the effect of the tidal wave on all the coasts of the gulf is to mix the warm surface water with the cold substratum and produce a temperature suitable to the mackerel, whereas on the coast of Massachusetts, where the water is so warm, they are driven off into the cold zone off shore. Whenever the water becomes warm on the coast you will find the mackerel out to sea in the summer, and whenever it is made cold by the mixing of the tides you will find the mackerel inshore.

Q. Now take the American coast; show the Commission where the

cold water strikes.—A. According to Professor Baird's reports there are three notable points where the Arctic current impinges upon the Banks and shoals within the limits of the United States waters and where the cod and mackerel spawning-grounds are found. If you will bear in mind the large map we had a short time ago, there were four spots marked upon that map as indicating spawning grounds for mackerel. If you will lay down upon the chart those points, which Professor Ver-rill has established as localities where the Arctic current is brought up, you will find that they exactly coincide. One spot is the George's Shoals.

Q. For the same reason you have spoken of, that the cold Arctic current is forced to the surface?—A. Yes; and the marine life found there is that of about 40 degrees temperature. There are three localities where the mackerel spawn, near Block Island, George's Bank, and near Stellwagen's Bank.

Q. Are those three fishing localities on the American coast, Block Island, George's Bank, and Stellwagen's Bank, in Massachusetts Bay, affected every year, and if so, in what way, by the action of the Gulf Stream?—A. The whole of the coast of the United States, south of Cape Cod, is affected by the Gulf Stream during the summer season. At Stonington the temperature is so warm even in June that cod and haddock cannot remain there. They are all driven off by this warm influx of the summer flow of the Gulf Stream. The same observation applies to certain portions of the New England coast.

Q. Is that the reason, in your judgment, why mackerel are not found there inshore at all except in spring?—A. That is chiefly the reason why they are found on the coast of the United States close inshore mostly in the spring and fall. They come again in the fall as soon as the water is cool enough. It is quite possible that owing to the prevalence of certain winds the temperature of the water may be sufficiently cool to permit them, even during the summer months, occasionally to come quite close inshore. The Arctic current, coming down from the Spitzbergen seas, passing the southern extremity of Greenland, turning round and coming down to Labrador, and so on, reaches Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and part of the coast of the United States, and passes underneath the Gulf Stream. Occasionally it comes out in the form of strips in the Gulf Stream, forming what are termed the different cold currents of the gulf. The difference in temperature between the Arctic current on the George's Shoals, for example, and 10 or 20 miles southwest, is from 20 to 25°. The difference between the temperature on the Grand Banks and the Gulf Stream, even that distance from the coast of America, is 23°, according to Humboldt. The temperature of the Gulf Stream, as given on the large map, is marked in several places at 78½° in June; the temperature just south of Long Island is marked 72½° in July.

Q. Does the Gulf Stream swing in at Block Island?—A. The summer flow of the Gulf Stream swings in with every southern wind, as far as Halifax Harbor, and brings with it southern fishes.

Q. Have you noticed any and what difference between the marine life on the coast of the United States and that on the coast of the Dominion?—A. Yes; the marine life on the coast of the United States, in some parts, is very similar to certain portions on the coast of the Dominion. For instance, north of Cape Cod, in all those parts of the sea where the depth is over 50, 60, or 70 fathoms, the character of the marine life is identical with the marine life on the sixty-fathom line of soundings in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; but it is only where the cold Arctic cur-

rent finds its way. On George's Shoals the marine life is almost of an Arctic character, according to Verrill, and it resembles an oasis of cold-blooded animals surrounded by the Gulf Stream.

Q. Have you ever turned your attention to see whether the present mode of fishing on the American coast is capable of, or likely to, deplete that coast of its codfish and mackerel? State your views.—A. With regard to that subject, if you will allow me, I will exhibit a map or chart, showing the distribution of the cod in Europe and America. (Chart exhibited.) You will find by an examination of this map that it is only where extreme cold water exists that cod is found throughout the year; and upon the American coast it is only where the Arctic current strikes, that cod is found through the year.

Q. I wish to know from you whether the mode of fishing in the United States will deplete those waters of the cod and mackerel, or not?—A. Considering the mode in which the cod and mackerel spawn, I think there can be no doubt whatever that it is quite possible through human agency to destroy, as has been destroyed on the coast of New England, the cod fishery, and also, to a considerable extent, the mackerel fisheries, simply because the area of cold water, which is absolutely necessary for the sustenance of those fish, is so comparatively small, and is being constantly reduced during the summer season. The proportion of the area of cold water opposite the coast of the United States, compared with the area of cold water opposite the coast of the Dominion, is as 45 to 200; in other words, if the United States has 45,000 square miles swept by the Arctic current the Dominion has 200,000 square miles; and every portion of the food supply which comes to the United States has to pass through Dominion waters, or by the waters of Newfoundland, simply because the Arctic current is constantly bringing the original supply of food from the north. Although our seas appear to be very abundant in life, yet, nevertheless, they are almost deserts compared with the wonderful abundance of life in the northern seas, particularly on the Labrador and Greenland coasts during the summer months. The sea, at times, appears to be perfectly thick with life, and to such an extraordinary extent does life exist in the northern seas, that the thermometer is very materially influenced during a single night by animal life. In a few hours the animal life disappears utterly, and the thermometer sinks two, three, or four degrees, and the water becomes colder. On another day the zone of life rises again, but it is always being driven to and fro by means of the Arctic current, and it follows the course of the great stream of ice which produces the cold in Labrador and the cold generally throughout the Western World.

Q. I understand that where the Arctic current strikes, there are the fishes to be found which require about 37 degrees of cold?—A. We are indebted to the Arctic current exclusively for all the cold-water fish, cod, mackerel, haddock, pollock, hake, ling, and beside all the minor fish on which they feed, such as caplin, smelt, launce, and added to these a vast number of *medusa*, various kinds of shell-fish and star-fish, all of which are most abundant in the northern seas. The Banks on the shores of Greenland are richer than any cod-banks in any other part of the world, and have been so described by various naturalists who have visited there.

Q. Take the George cod-banks or any other cod-banks opposite the United States coast, has the supply of fish on those Banks materially diminished of late years? I wish you to contrast the fishing there with the fishing on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland or that on the Banks to the south of Newfoundland.—A. Personally I know nothing about

the quantities of fish taken on any portion of the coast of the United States, but I have derived the information I have obtained from the reports of Commissioner Baird and his assistants, and also from conversations with fishermen. Now we know, for instance, that George's Banks are not more than 35 years old as a fishing ground. At first it was frequented exclusively for halibut. The halibut seemed to reign there supreme. They were finally caught out, as fishermen say.

Q. Halibut is a powerful fish?—A. It is a much more powerful fish than cod, and drives the cod from all favorite places of resort. Then after the halibut had been driven away cod began to increase. I would here say that cod and halibut were taken together in the first instance, but much more halibut than cod. The cod taken were of large size, as is always the case when a fishing-ground is first established on any banks; then they gradually diminish in size and in number except in certain localities. Now, although I know nothing of my own knowledge, nevertheless from conversations I have had with fishermen, there is no doubt it is more difficult now to get a cargo of large cod, for example, notwithstanding the extensive use of bultows, on Georges and in every locality on the coast of the United States, than it was when the fishery was first commenced; and in the same way on our own coast.

Q. You mean the trawl?—A. Yes. The reason why I make use of the term "bultow" is because the term "trawling" is applied to a totally different mode of fishing in Europe.

Q. You mean the long line and minor lines from it?—A. Yes.

Q. Take our own fisheries; as far as you are aware are they practically inexhaustible?—A. As far as all experience goes, judging from history and what we see at the present time, there are certain localities practically inexhaustible. There is no portion of the world where there is such a constant and unvarying supply of codfish as in the Straits of Belle Isle. It has been so for the past 300 years, and you may even go farther back, to the time of the old French forts and towns, including the town of Brest, the ruins of which still exist on the coast of the Straits of Belle Isle. From the year 1590 down to the present time, the whole of the Straits of Belle Isle, a distance of 60 miles, have been famed for the uniform quantity of cod. The same holds good with regard to the Grand Banks and Newfoundland. The same also applies to that amazing fishing-ground at the south coast of Newfoundland, where the codfish winter at a depth of from 150 to 200 fathoms, and where they can be taken constantly during the winter. Compared with European fisheries, the Newfoundland fisheries and Labrador fisheries are far superior in every particular. The character of the Norwegian fisheries, for instance, is very remarkable. The summer Norwegian fisheries are prosecuted on the northern coast, and are identical in regard to character of fish with the Labrador fisheries. The only large fish caught are taken at Loffoden, Romsdal, and another locality. But the quantity of fish there taken, compared with what is taken on the Newfoundland coast, is on an average as the proportion to 3 to 5; where 5 fish or 5 quintals are taken on the coast of Newfoundland, 3 fish or 3 quintals only are taken on the whole coast of Norway.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. That is including Loffoden Islands?—A. Yes; the exports of Norway very rarely exceed 500,000 or 600,000 quintals.

By Mr. Thomson:

Q. Among the fish for which we are indebted to the Arctic current, I do not recollect that you named herring; that is one?—A. Certainly. I did not name herring, but it was an inadvertence.

Q. You have spoken of the effect of the tide at Prince Edward Island, and as to there being not only water at the temperature the mackerel requires, but also the tide. Suppose a body of witnesses swore that two-thirds of the catch of mackerel, for instance, in Bay St. Lawrence, are taken within three marine miles of the coast, and another body of witnesses swore that the larger body of the fish is taken outside, and the smaller body inside, which would be the party whose evidence would agree with your scientific knowledge of what ought to be the result?—A. I would say, as far as the Gulf of St. Lawrence is concerned, that scientific evidence all tends toward throwing the food near the shore, and it is the food which attracts the fish.

Q. You would, therefore, be inclined to think that the large quantity of mackerel would be taken inshore?—A. Certainly.

Q. Are you aware that the Dominion Government of late years have taken great pains to restock the rivers?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you any idea whether they would have any appreciable effect upon the maintenance of the sea fisheries?—A. I think there can be no doubt that in the course of two or three years the effect will be most marked, but it takes some time to restock a river. The principal operation, however, is no doubt perfect. It is the manner of restoring again to its natural condition the food supply of the fish which formerly existed on the coast, and that is being done in various localities with all possible rapidity. You allude, I suppose, more particularly to the fish ascending their spawning rivers by means of fish-ways over mill dams, and restocking rivers in that way and also restocking by means of the ova of different varieties of fish, salmon, white fish, bass and others.

Q. Those measures have an important effect on the sea fishery?—A. A very important effect on the sea fishery, simply because they bring the sea-fish inshore. The cause of the sea-fish gradually ceasing to come inshore in various localities is the destruction of the former lure which brought them in, namely, the bait, the fry, young fish.

Q. Has the fact of the coasts of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island being studded with small islands any effect on the value of the fisheries, and, if so, what?—A. The orographic features of every coast line exert an amazing influence on the fisheries. A sandy shore, supposing the marine climate is fitted for it, is characterized by an extraordinary development of shell-fish; whereas a shore which contains many bays and promontories is distinguished by the ordinary sea-fish and by other classes of animal life—crustaceans for instance. Thus, for example, when you get on the coast of the United States as far south as Long Island, New Jersey, and Delaware, the coast line changes altogether and with it the character of the marine life. There is there an abundance of all forms of shell-fish, and also many forms of warmer water-fish which come in from the Gulf Stream. The shell-fish on our coast, although the marine climate is well suited to certain varieties, such as the whelk and various kinds of clams, still the quantity which is found on our shores is comparatively small, except in certain localities where there are banks of particular description. Wide expanses of sandy beach are especially adapted to be the home of the shell-fish; whereas, on the contrary, jutting shores, headlands, and rocky promontories, are especially adapted to the crustacean food for ordinary sea-fish.

By Mr. Dana :

Q. You are testifying to a large extent from the report?—A. I am.

By Mr. Thomson :

Q. The scientific knowledge you have is not to be altered when given

verbally, simply because you have written the same things in a report?—

A. No.

Q. You have spoken of islands along the coast. Some of our witnesses spoke of catching fish in eddies. Is not the effect of the islands to mackerel eddies?—A. The food is carried backwards and forwards in the eddies.

Q. Do the eddies preserve the food for the fish?—A. Yes; in a very remarkable way. I had special opportunities last summer of sailing among eddies for hundreds of miles on the coast of Labrador and of observing many of the remarkable phenomena connected with this food.

Q. What is the effect of the eddies?—A. To concentrate food.

Q. And they will consequently be frequented by the fish?—A. Yes; it is with that view I have described on these charts the movements of the mackerel.

Q. How do the eddies preserve the food?—A. They move in circles and ellipses and prevent the food from being carried away. The swing of the tides depends altogether on the locality where they may happen to be. The swing of the tide in the Bay of Fundy—I mention the Bay of Fundy because the tides are developed to a greater extent there than on any other locality on this continent—is about 35 miles. Fish food is carried up the bay about thirty-five miles and brought back to the same place with the turn of the tide, thus continually swinging backward and forward for 35 miles for months together. It frequently happens that during the winter season vessels caught in the ice will for three or four weeks swing backward and forward in the middle of the bay. The swing depends on the height of the tide, because that governs its velocity, and it varies from 15 to 35 miles in linear extent.

Q. When practical fishermen state they get fish in the eddies, that would agree with your scientific information?—A. Quite so.

Q. In the same way, you say that the statement that more fish is caught inshore than out in the gulf would square with your scientific knowledge?—A. More mackerel.

Q. On the American coast, is there a great number of large manufactories on the rivers entering the sea? Are you aware of that; and state what influence the American manufactories have on the fisheries?—A. I could not say that the American manufactories have any effect. I think the quantity of material brought down in the rivers has no effect on the sea fish, only on the river fish. Damage would be produced by mill-dams obstructing the passage up, but the sea is a reservoir so vast, and constantly moving, that a small quantity of foreign material introduced into a river has no effect on the sea.

Q. What is the effect of throwing overboard gurry on fishing-grounds?—A. That depends entirely on the locality. Where there is a strong current there is little or no effect at all. When fishermen throw overboard, as they frequently do, the back-bone of the codfish when fish are cleaned on deck, it has a very prejudicial effect on those fish which feed on the offal. That is explained in this way: The cod, as fish do as a general rule, take the food head foremost. The reason is that the fins would present an obstruction to their passage down the gullet of the cod, but when they take the fish head foremost they are easily passed down. When the back-bone of the fish is swallowed, in the endeavors which the cod constantly makes to throw up, it sticks in the stomach and remains there, and the cod are very frequently taken in what fishermen call a logy condition, with a portion of the vertebra penetrating the entrails. That frequently happens when gurry is thrown overboard.

With regard to the action of gurry and fish offal in the harbors of Newfoundland, that will depend entirely on the season of the year, and also upon the locality where it happens to be thrown. I consider it has a very prejudicial effect inshore, and I have described this in a paper which I published some time since.

By Mr. Whiteway :

Q. Will you now state what you know about the distribution of food and the habits of the cod, and your reasons for the great abundance of the fish on the Newfoundland shores?—A. In the first place, with regard to the spawning habits of the cod. The cod is known to spawn during every month of the year on the coast of America. In Trinity Bay—I select Trinity Bay as one large place, where the water is not less than 300 fathoms—cod spawn during six months of the year. We know this, from the fact that the spawn dealers get the spawn from the fishermen during that period; moreover, the fishermen catch the cod with the spawn running from it. In the second place, the Straits of Belle Isle is the great spawning place. Cod chiefly spawn there in August, at that period of the year when the water has been cooled down to a great extent by salt-water ice. You will observe an immense difference between ordinary fresh-water ice and salt-water ice produced by the sea-water itself.

Q. Point out the spawning localities of the cod on the Newfoundland coast.—A. First, there is the Straits of Belle Isle, particularly round about Belle Isle Island. In the second place, along the Newfoundland coast there are Notre Dame Bay, Bonavista Bay, Trinity Bay. I have no special knowledge about Conception Bay. The cod spawn from May to August all along the south coast of the island, and on the north part of the Grand Banks.

Q. That may be considered as the great spawning ground for the cod and the great codfishery in the world?—A. Certainly it is, all around that coast; I also include part of the Great Banks. I know in regard only to a small portion of the Grand Banks as a place where they spawn. I have no doubt they spawn all over the Banks, but I have only received information about a certain portion. There is a remarkable fact with respect to the spawning of cod, that while they spawn in May on one side of the entrance to the gulf, they spawn in September on the other side, and that arises from the simple fact that the water is not cold enough till September. With regard to the mode of spawning of cod and all these fish, it is important to bear in mind that they spawn in mid-water, with the male underneath the female. That is also the way with mackerel. Almost all sea-fish, except those enumerated by Commissioner Baird the other day, and two or three I will add immediately, spawn in mid-water. You can always distinguish between the egg of the fish whose spawn floats at the surface and the egg of the fish whose spawn adheres to the bottom. The eggs of all those fish whose spawn floats has the orifice through which the fructifying principle of the male enters always downward. The eggs of all those fish whose spawn is at the bottom has the orifice always upwards. The milt of the male is always poured over the eggs of those adhering to the bottom and under those floating.

Q. Will you state your views with regard to the bait generally on the shores of Newfoundland and the Dominion; also the habits of the bait itself, the places where found, general distribution, and its effect upon the cod-fishery?—A. With regard to herring, which is perhaps generally known to be the best, both in Europe and America, you can always catch fish with herring.

Q. When upon herring, I will ask you with regard to the south coast of Newfoundland as a herring spawning ground. What are your views with regard to it?—A. I only know of three or four localities where herring has been observed to spawn, although I have not a shadow of doubt it does spawn to an enormous extent upon the southern coast.

Q. Professor Baird stated that the southern coast of Newfoundland is the great spawning ground for herring. Do you concur with him in that statement?—A. Certainly. It is one of the great spawning grounds. There is not a shadow of doubt that the herring spawns from Cape Cod to the Straits of Belle Isle.

Q. Professor Baird designates the southern coast of Newfoundland as the great spawning ground for herring of America. Do you agree with him?—A. Yes, altogether. There are very erroneous views entertained by fishermen with respect to the spawning grounds of herring, and also with regard to the spawning grounds of all fish whose spawn adheres to the bottom. The herring spawns in water from 5 to 130 fathoms in depth. Caplin, instead of spawning only in great number on beaches, as is generally supposed, spawn also in 30 fathoms. The launce also spawn on the Grand Banks, where they have been caught full of ripe spawn, and they spawn also to some extent on the Newfoundland coast.

Q. Professor Baird pointed out Grand Manan as one of the great spawning grounds for herring. Do you concur with him?—A. Certainly.

Q. Having stated your views with regard to herring, would you be kind enough to continue to answer the question I put to you with regard to bait?—A. The season of the year, excluding herring, determines to a very considerable extent the bait which is used, especially on the coast of Newfoundland. The first kind of bait you have there is caplin, and caplin is found only as far as the southern portion of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It is essentially a cold-water fish. It is found in immense quantities off Greenland, to an enormous extent upon the northern portion of Norway, where the cod-fishing in the summer season is not called summer cod-fishing, but the caplin fishery, simply from the cod following the caplin inshore. The next bait, as a general rule—but it varies very much each year—is squid. Sometimes launce comes in before squid. I have heard of one or two cases of squid coming in as early as June.

Q. Have you any reason to give why the bait-fish approach our shores—the herring, squid, caplin, and launce?—A. I think there is a reason, but I think the reason that is generally stated, viz, that they approach the shore for the purpose of spawning, is begging the question. I think it is doubtful whether they approach the shore only for that purpose. They approach the shore because they are driven by predaceous fishes which feed on them. The cod follows the caplin and drives it inshore, owing to the circumstance that during the spawning season, as far as known, all fish have peculiar odors developed. The caplin has the cucumber odor, and so strongly is it developed during the spawning season, that Newfoundland fishermen will tell you they can smell caplin for miles. I have smelt it 50, 60, or 80 yards and not seen any, but there have been men before me with a bag of fresh caplin. The smelt has also the odor of the cucumber, which appears to be developed during the spawning season, and lures the cod inshore. The herring has also a peculiar odor, but it is totally different from that of the cucumber. And we have a particular reason why it is developed only during the spawning season, viz, that afforded by the remarkable phenomenon which exists in Newfoundland in the winter. All along the southern coast, and I have no doubt on the coast of the United

States, herring are lying under the land during winter at depths of from 15 to 30 fathoms. There are lying a little farther out seaward, especially on the coast of Newfoundland, from one to two miles out, but in a different zone, millions of cod. You have the herring and its prey lying close together, but they never come in conflict with each other during that season of the year.

Q. Why do they not?—A. The cod is found in from 150, 180, and 200 fathoms. The large herring is, comparatively speaking, near the surface—at a depth of 30 fathoms or so, according to the zone of temperature. The cod is feeding on the young herring, which are found deeper down. When you catch winter cod you will almost invariably find herring or caplin in their stomachs. If it were not so, the species would very soon be destroyed; it seems to be a providential arrangement by which the species is preserved. It is the same with regard to many other fish. Their young separate from them and go into the different zones of water during different periods of the year. The question you asked me some time ago with respect to the island is another illustration. It is the young or fry of the herring which go to the edge of the great deeps off our coast. You have only to go 100 miles to the south of Halifax and you plunge down to a depth of 3 miles. From a depth of 90 fathoms you plunge down a mountain range, only 30 miles south of Cape Sable, with a depth of three miles, or 20,000 feet. So it is at the edge of the Grand Bank, and all along the coast of Newfoundland. Even in Trinity Bay you have a depth of 1,800 feet. In these deep marine valleys and on the mountain ridges you have fish distributed in zones of temperature during the winter. All along the steep banks you have zones of vegetation and of animal life. At a depth of 1,600 feet you discern enormous quantities of sponges, and as you rise to the crest at Sable Island or Grand Bank you come upon an enormous multitude of star-fish of all ages and sizes, and the star-fish always approach the land or shoals in the spring to feed upon the shell fish there. They feed on the enormous multitudes of whelks found all over the Labrador and Newfoundland coasts, and you can see them in very calm weather encircling the whelks and sucking the contents into their protruded stomachs.

Q. The conformation of the coast of Newfoundland, the depth of water, the deep bays and inlets, and numerous islands—do you think these conditions peculiarly adapted to constitute the home of the codfish?—

A. Yes. I think there is no part of the world where, owing to the orographic features of the coast-line, all the conditions of life for the cod are developed to such an extent as on the northeast coast of Newfoundland, the northern portion of the Grand Banks, and the southern part of the island. The proof is afforded by the amazing multitude of seals which come every winter, to the extent of three or four millions, and they feed largely upon codfish. They are found bringing the codfish on the ice. Where the ice drifts into deep bays you will very frequently find the seals, especially the old seals, bringing codfish and placing them on the surface of the ice.

Q. In what month of the year does that occur?—A. From February to the middle of April.

Q. Will you state generally your views as to the progress and development of the Newfoundland fisheries since they have been known, so far as your information goes?—A. I speak now of the Newfoundland fisheries as distinct from the Bank fisheries.

Q. I am speaking now of the Newfoundland inshore fisheries. You are aware that from the coast of Newfoundland the Bank fishery is not

carried on, except to the extent of three, four, or five vessels?—A. Yes. About 40 years ago the Bank fishery, so far as regards Newfoundland, entirely ceased, and the fishery has since been carried on altogether within shore, and is extending year by year farther and farther up the Labrador. As far as my observation goes, and as far as statistics go, I am able to show that the increase during the last 60 or 70 years—since, for instance, 1804—has been almost perfectly uniform, when you take into consideration the increase in the population of the country. Of course, it is to a certain extent dependent upon that, and subject also to those fluctuations which continually take place in our fisheries—in the mackerel and cod fisheries—and in the marine climate on the American coast, also in the herring fishery.

Q. I think you have prepared a diagram showing the progress in the fisheries?—A. Yes. (Diagram produced.) This shows the annual fluctuations in the exports of codfish from Newfoundland from 1804 to 1876, and a continuous increase since 1850, since when there has always been a mean of one million quintals. It reached one million in 1842, and after that it either approached to or rose above it continuously.

Q. Those diagrams you prepared from authentic records, I believe?—A. They are so prepared.

Q. Then from 1804 to 1876 there has been a uniform increase in the productions of the Newfoundland fisheries?—A. I would scarcely use the word “uniform,” otherwise one would suppose the increase was continuous from year to year; but take a group of years, say five years, and the increase is continuous.

Q. You are aware of the different modes of prosecuting the fishery on the island of Newfoundland both by British and French, I believe?—A. Yes.

Q. Is the cod seine used there to any extent?—A. It is largely used in the deep bays of Newfoundland, and also by the French on what is called the French shore; that is to say, on the northern coast of Newfoundland and in the northern portion of the gulf.

Q. Between Cape Ray and Quirpon?—A. I mean more particularly between Cape St. John and Quirpon. The seine is largely used along this coast. I saw it myself largely used there last year; and I saw the seine used by Newfoundlanders in Trinity Bay.

Q. You know as a fact that it is used?—A. Yes; and largely.

Q. At what season of the year is the cod seine used?—A. This is the case during what is called the caplin season.

Q. That is when the caplin are on the coast in great abundance?—A. Yes; when they first come in.

Q. And when the cod are also there in great abundance?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you any knowledge regarding the quantity of cod taken in these large seines?—A. Personally, I have no such knowledge. I have never counted them, but I have seen a very large number so taken. Admiral Cloué states, in his report, that frequently 30,000 are taken in a cod seine.

Q. In one haul?—A. Yes. The statement that from 10,000 to 15,000 and 30,000 cod are so taken at a haul also frequently occurs in the reports of Newfoundland fishery officials.

Q. From 50 to 250 quintals are thus taken in one haul of the seine?—A. Yes, fully; and, in many instances, more, because sometimes a school is composed of large fish.

Q. That is 250 quintals of what are called green fish?—A. Yes; before they are dried and prepared for market.

Q. And this occurs frequently?—A. I believe so; as I have said, I never saw it myself.

Q. In order to use these seines to great advantage, is it not very desirable that the fish should not be at all disturbed on their grounds in these bays?—A. Yes; otherwise the schools would be broken up.

Q. Then, if the bait be disturbed to any considerable extent, and it goes off, the cod would also be disturbed and follow?—A. Yes; that necessarily follows.

Q. Now, with regard to the French, how do they carry on the fisheries; are you aware? I do not now refer to St. Pierre and Miquelon, but to other portions of the coast.—A. I have seen the French fishermen at several harbors on the northeast coast of Newfoundland.

Q. Will you mention the time when the fishing-vessels arrive from France, and the tonnage of their vessels, and describe the means and particular mode in which they carry on the fishery from their vessels in one of these harbors on the northeast coast of Newfoundland where they have the privilege of fishing?—A. I will describe what I saw in the harbor of Fleur de Lis, which is situated on the northeast coast of Newfoundland. It has always been a rather celebrated fishing station. I think that three large vessels were there last year, and one of them was a very large brig.

Q. What was her size?—A. I could not say exactly, but I think that she was of 220 or 240 tons burden. I have a list of the tonnage of all of them, which I obtained from Admiral Cloué's report.

Q. Without going into the particulars, I will simply ask you with regard to the tonnage of these vessels—between what figures does their average tonnage vary?—A. Between 200 and 300 tons; some of the vessels on the northeast shore are of larger build.

Q. At what season of the year do they arrive?—A. They arrive as soon as the ice leaves the coast—in other words, as soon as they can get in; very frequently they first go to St. Pierre and Miquelon, and if they find that the ice is off shore, they leave there about the middle of June. The first thing they do is to prepare their stages, and their fishing-houses and bakery. They are always well provided with fresh bread. They generally when they observe the cod come in after the caplin, devote themselves in the first instance to seining them; as soon as the cod leaves the shore, which they do after the caplin has spawned, they then first devote themselves to the taking of bait by means of bait seines. They require a constant supply of fresh bait; they then devote themselves to what is called the process of line-fishing, and they continue this from day to day; in the meanwhile they always have their watchers out, watching for the schools of cod; and the moment that such a school is noticed they immediately take their seines and seine the cod; and this they continue until September, bringing the fruits of their day's work inshore, letting the splitting and cleaning and drying be done on shore by a regular corps of persons whom they bring out for the purpose, completing their operations in the same way as Newfoundlanders are accustomed to do.

Q. Then they remove from the coast of Newfoundland with their cargoes of cod in September or October?—A. Yes.

Q. Do they leave their stages in charge of some one?—A. Yes: these are generally left in charge of some resident.

Q. How many men are usually employed in these vessels?—A. I could not say precisely. I do not know, but the number is very large.

Q. Could you give it approximately?—A. The number is 60 or 70.

Q. How many dories or boats have they?—A. I could not say. I never entered into those particulars.

Q. When do the mackerel appear on the Magdalen Islands?—A. The mackerel come in there from the 60-fathom line of the soundings, or wherever they may winter, about the last of May, from the last of May to the 12th of June. In some instances a good many mackerel are caught there before the 1st of June; that is to say, the so-called spring mackerel or lean mackerel. I have prepared a table showing the period of their arrival during perhaps 14 or 15 years.

Q. Have you that table with you?—A. Yes. This always takes place about one month after the arrival of the herring. In 1857 the mackerel arrived there on June 1; in 1860, on June 1; in 1862, on June 4; in 1863, on June 12; in 1864, on June 6; in 1865, on May 30; in 1866, on May 29; in 1867, on June 2. I can get no record for 1868 and 1869, but in 1871 they arrived on May 31. For 1872 I have no record. In 1873, on June 5; in 1874, on June 7; in 1875, on June 8, and in 1876, on June 6.

Q. How do these periods of time correspond with the appearance of the mackerel on the coast of the United States?—A. There are generally from 6 to 8 days' difference between the appearances. I have here a record of their appearance on the coast of the United States, and I find that the dates vary in a remarkable manner each year. For instance, at the Waquoit Weir, in Massachusetts Bay, in 1875 the mackerel appeared on the 25th of April, and in 1872 on the 10th of May, showing a difference in time of 15 days, whereas at the Magdalen Islands they appeared in 1871 on the 31st of May, and in 1872 on the 20th of June, showing a difference in time of 21 days, though this must be a mistake.

By Sir Alexander Galt :

Q. Would you turn back to your table concerning their arrival at the Magdalen Islands?—A. It must be a mistake. I find that here for 1872 no date is given.

By Mr. Whiteway :

Q. Could you, by reference, correct that?—A. O, yes.

Q. Could you do it to-morrow?—A. Perhaps I had better do it previously.

Q. Will you describe the different forms and descriptions of ice, and how these operate upon or affect the fishery?—A. There are three forms of ice which exercise an influence over the fisheries in our waters; these three forms are, first of all, fresh-water ice as it occurs in the form of icebergs; secondly, the ice which occurs in the form of salt-water ice; and thirdly, the ice which occurs in the form of ground ice, or ice which is formed at the bottom of the sea. The most important form of all is the floe ice, or salt-water ice; but icebergs have little or no effect at all on the movements of the fish, simply because the cold which they produce is always brought to the surface, owing to the small specific gravity of the water resulting from the melting of icebergs; but the floe ice is composed of salt-water ice, and always has a temperature of about three degrees below the ordinary freezing point of water. That is due to the circumstance of a very considerable quantity of brine being entangled in the process of freezing, and the result of this is that wherever salt-water ice is drifted into a sea area it cools the sea area down to its own temperature, which is never less at the bottom of the ice floe than 29 degrees, and sometimes even 28 degrees. Then, again, when the salt-water ice melts, the coldest portions always necessarily melt first, and

the result is that the brine of the ice being of a specific gravity much greater than the surrounding sea water, this very cold, heavy water sinks down to the bottom of the sea, or to a zone which is of the same specific gravity. Hence the result is those different zones in the Gulf of St. Lawrence which are described in these papers.

By Mr. Doutre :

Q. Are you correct in stating that the coldest parts of the ice melt first?—A. Yes. This does look strange at the first blush ; but when you think of it, you will see that the coldest parts must melt first. Now the effect of that is that wherever you have salt-water ice, which is raining down a stream of cold, the moment it gets to the fish, they will not cross this line of cold. The effect of this is most marvelous in the distribution of various kinds of fish in the spring of the year ; and, besides, the effect is more marvelous still in the distribution of these zones of cold throughout the gulf, or zones of cold as recently found throughout the Baltic Sea, producing those zones of temperature in which the fish roam during the summer months and find their food.

By the President :

Q. What is the third kind of ice?—A. The third kind of ice is ice that only forms in the coldest waters. It is formed at the bottom of the sea. In a letter which I recently received from Dr. Carpenter, he describes the formation of this ice in the Baltic Sea. It is known in America, especially in relation to fresh-water ice, as anchor-ice : in our rivers it very frequently is found, especially in rapid rivers. There is one condition required for its formation in the sea. You must have a rapid current, or otherwise it cannot form. This arises from the circumstance that the water is reduced down to the temperature of freezing salt water, which is 27 degrees ; the sea freezes at 27 degrees only, or at 25 degrees in perfectly still water ; and when it is brought down to that temperature, the moment that the cold water impinges on any surface ice crystals start out from it, and these ice crystals accumulate one on the top of the other until they become so light that they break loose and rise to the surface ; hence it is that it is always necessary with regard to seal nets—which, during the winter season, are sunk from 18 to 20 and 22 fathoms, by the Newfoundland sealers, on their coast, or on the coast of Labrador—to watch these nets, for fear that the corks, during a perfectly clear night, in a rapid current, should become incrustated with icy particles ; and if this happens the whole net will suddenly become incrustated with the icy particles, rise to the surface, and be carried away, causing the loss of the net. They always find that fish, or anything that may be caught in the nets—seals, for example, if they remain for an hour or so in the nets when the anchor-ice is forming—are frozen. One important point of practical importance with regard to the action of ice, to which I would direct attention, is that which the Swedes and Norwegians have now, under the supervision of the Norwegian Government, introduced, namely, the finding out before fishing operations commence the zone or depth at which the fish are to be found. This is the first thing that is done. On the great fishing-grounds on the coast of Norway, for instance, their first step is to find the depth at which the fish are to be found, and whether it be 10, 50, or 90 fathoms, they will sink their nets to that zone. The way in which they find the zone in which the herring are floating is by means of a very narrow net, which they will set, for example, at night. Such a net will be, for instance, 100 fathoms deep—a common seining net inverted. This they sink, and when they take it up they find fish entrapped in it at the zone

or depth in which the fish are to be found. They then set their seines according to the depth at which the fish are found.

Q. Do you mean to say that the zone where the fish are to be found is ascertained by the government?—A. Yes; this is done under the supervision of the government.

Q. For the information of the fishermen?—A. Yes; and the fishermen are also provided with thermometers to ascertain the zone or depth at which the fish are to be found. I ought to say that they did not provide the fishermen with thermometers for that particular purpose, but for the testing of the temperature of the sea-water, with the view of ascertaining the days and hours when the herring fishery is most likely to be productive; and in Scotland the fishermen now are provided with thermometers; that is to say, those who are capable of using thermometers. So it also is with respect to the Dutch Government, which has provided most of their fishermen with thermometers to ascertain the temperature of the sea, with a view to instructing them as to the period and day or hour when they should sink their nets, how deep they shall sink them; and I have no doubt that these thermometers will, in the course of two or three years, become an agent of very great value with regard to our fisheries, enabling us to ascertain the depth at which they are likely to find herring in the fall, or, if we can, in the spring, in the different zones of water.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. Have you any other information to impart regarding the effect of these descriptions of ice upon the fisheries?—A. I have prepared some diagrams, but I did not think them worthy of remark, and consequently I did not bring them with me. These are merely to show fishing places in the bays, but they lead to results which, if viewed in a proper manner, can be properly interpreted. Very frequently you find, for example, cod coming in without caplin and caplin coming in without cod; sometimes, too, you find tons of dead caplin lying upon the surface of the beach. Now, I think that the explanation of this fact is exceedingly simple. It arises from this circumstance: I observed myself last year, while wandering for weeks, at least for a fortnight, among a field of ice composed of frozen detached pieces, extending over a surface of fifty square miles, that no cod and no caplin came underneath that ice; they would not pass through the cold current which was perpetually falling and forming beneath it. The fishermen prophesied where these fish were to be found, and I ascertained that they were found, as they intimated would be the case. The explanation of this is exceedingly simple. The caplin and cod come in, and meeting the ice, will not strike through the cold current which is falling the while from the melting ice, and is being carried along the coast; but instead of striking across to their customary haunts, they in such event proceed along the edge of the field until they reach the grounds at its extremity. They would not pass through this cold current, and having practical knowledge of this fact, the fishermen are enabled to go to the right spot where the fish are to be found.

Q. You were on the coast of Labrador last summer, I believe?—A. Yes.

Q. How far did you go up it?—A. I went up 350 miles beyond Belle Isle.

Q. Did you make there any discoveries as regards the existence of banks in the neighborhood of the coast of Labrador?—A. I should not call them discoveries, for I simply described what the fishermen had

known for a long time before. Enormous banks are located there, and I noted down their position and mapped them.

Q. Do these banks extend all along the coast of Labrador, or are they situated off that portion of the coast which you have visited?—A. They do not extend all along the coast. There is very deep water indeed from Belle Isle to a place called Spotted Island, a distance up of ninety miles, where there are no banks; then you go up to Hamilton Inlet, a distance of about sixty miles, where also there are no banks, but when you get to Aillik Head, some forty miles beyond Hamilton Inlet, then the banks commence and continue as far as Mugford, 170 miles up, and I was informed indefinitely along the coast.

Q. As regards the flocs of ice and icebergs which are brought down by the Arctic current, have you any information to impart as respects the diatoms, or animalculæ, attached to them, which form the food of codfish?—A. Yes; in this way: We always find the lowest forms of vegetable life in the Arctic regions associated with the ice in vast profusion. They are described by those naturalists who have been in these northern waters as completely covering the sea for hundreds of thousands of square miles in the northern waters of Greenland seas and Baffin's Bay; tens of thousands of square miles of these peculiar vegetable forms were described by the officers of the Valorous, who went to take provisions to the late Polar Expedition, under Captain Nares. I have with me various descriptions of these animalculæ, and of the enormous extent to which they are developed; I have also appended to this paper here a note, by Dr. Robert Brown, describing the chain of connection which exists between these minute diatoms, found in the Arctic seas, and the food of all fish there up to the whale, and showing the most minute connection between them, and also how it is that in the northern seas many varieties of fish, particularly such as the gigantic basking shark, feed exclusively upon shrimps—a variety of shrimps which form the food of our mackerel—and are specially provided with suitable apparatus for it; so it also is with the seal.

Now, I have succeeded in getting a portion of the mouth-fringe of a shark about 35 feet long with a special apparatus which, in a single moment as you can see, is wonderfully formed for the purpose of sifting out these shrimps. The shark passes through the shrimps with his mouth open, and his mouth is furnished with this peculiar kind of apparatus. These teeth are designed to prevent its food from escaping. The shrimp feed on the animalculæ which feed on the diatoms. It is also a circumstance worthy of mention, in order to show the enormous range of the common squid, that in the northern waters the stomach of the nar-wal is found filled with the beaks of the common squid.

By Mr. Trescot:

Q. How many of these appliances for the taking of food are found in the mouth of the shark?—A. A succession of them are laid along in it.

Q. Are they placed transversely or parallel in the jaws?—A. They move like gills.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Q. As regards the codfishery of Newfoundland, I believe you have stated it is entirely inshore fishery?—A. As far as my experience goes it is exclusively an inshore fishery as now pursued by the Newfoundlanders. Perhaps on the south coast here and there during the winter they may go beyond what is technically termed the three-mile limit. This is quite probable, but taking it altogether this fishery is pursued

in small boats, and is essentially an inshore fishery. I was in a good many of these boats, and I went with the fishermen, especially in the great Bay of Notre Dame, where the mackerel frequently appear in considerable abundance, and where many years ago they made their appearance in such numbers that it is still a common saying among fishermen there that they were then "cursed off the coast" because they filled the herring nets and were a great nuisance to them, as they could find no market for these fish, and so they used them for manure.

By Sir Alexander Galt:

Q. At what distance from the shore do the French prosecute the cod fishery?—A. They fish inshore, sometimes to five miles out, but generally close inshore. The water is deep there quite close inshore. They are fishing all along the shore.

Q. Are the seines which you have described dragged from the shore?—A. Not necessarily; very frequently they inclose the fish and bale them out.

Q. They do not draw them to the shore?—A. No; in many instances they cannot draw these seines to land; the water is so deep and the coast so sheer.

Q. I want to understand how these seines are managed?—A. I only saw one handled once, and I would not like, under the circumstances, to give a general description of the way in which they are used; but they are managed in the ordinary way in which seines are managed at sea. They drag the seine together where the bottom of the seine will reach the bottom of the sea, for otherwise, of course, the fish inclosed would escape.

Q. How do they get the fish to the surface?—A. In a large seine, there is always what is called the bag, and they get the fish into this bag. These seines are not drawn together with strings like purse nets, but knowing little or nothing about them, I will not venture to offer a description of them.

FRIDAY, *October 26, 1877.*

The Conference met.

The examination of Prof. HENRY YOULE HIND was resumed.

By Mr. Whiteway:

Question. Have you a general knowledge as regards the French fishery as carried on, on the coast of Newfoundland and on the Grand Bank?—Answer. I have no personal knowledge in this respect except as to what I have seen between Cape St. John and Quirpon. I was only in one of the harbors there twice, but in the course of conversation with different fishermen, I accumulated as much information as I could; and I have informed myself as far as possible concerning the history of the French fisheries, particularly as derived from French works on the subject and also from official statements relating to the last 40 years, contained in the records of the various Parliamentary works to be had in Newfoundland.

Q. From your information and general knowledge as regards the French Bank fishery and the French coast fishery, what in your opinion would be the effect, if the French were prevented from getting bait in any way from the coast of Newfoundland?—A. With reference to the French Bank fishery of course any information which I can give on the subject is necessarily that which I have derived from official documents, because I have no personal knowledge in relation to the French Bank fishery; but from the information which I have gathered, embraced in records that go back over perhaps a period of 40 years, the uniform tes-

timony seems to be that if they were cut off from the means of obtaining fresh herring and caplin for use on the Grand Banks, it would be impossible for them to continue that fishery to one-half the extent they now do. They have long since exhausted, or nearly exhausted, the caplin fishery upon the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, where they used to supply themselves, some 40 or 50 years ago, with this bait, and as far as I can gather from conversation and also from the statistics I have obtained, the annual quantity of herring which they require varies from 70,000 to 100,000 barrels; while the annual quantity of caplin that they need varies from 40,000 to 60,000 hogsheads, and so on.

Q. Have you any knowledge as regards the value which the French put upon their fishery rights on the coast of Newfoundland?—A. I have only the knowledge which history affords in this relation, which is that they have always been most tenacious of those rights, from the time when the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon were conceded to them, together with certain supposed rights on the western coast and on the northeast coast of Newfoundland. They have not only been, but are now at the present time most tenacious of those rights; and it has been a source of constant difficulty between the British fishermen and the French fishermen, with reference to the supposed encroachments of British fishermen on the fishing grounds they claim.

Q. Are you aware as regards the number of men and nets employed by the French in these fisheries?—A. I have gathered here the statistics which are published by Admiral Cloué, who for many years was on that coast, and who is the author of the French work entitled *Pilote de Terre-Neuve*, which is the only great authority not only for the French, but when translated also for the British, for a very great deal of our information respecting the coast of Newfoundland. Now, these tables are taken from his official work, and if necessary I can produce the work itself, which I obtained for that purpose from the Library of Parliament at Ottawa. It comprises two volumes in French, and is entitled *Pilote de Terre-Neuve par Le Contre-Admiral G. C. Cloué*. These tables relate to the different fishing stations, and describe the character, as far as vessels and men are concerned, of the French fishing grounds, the Bank fishing-grounds, the Gulf fishing grounds, and the northeast coast fishing grounds, and what they call the dory fishery. Tables Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 give the statistics of each kind of fishery, the number of men employed in them and the kind of vessels engaged in them. I have also the number of boats so engaged.

Q. Those named as coast-fishing vessels are those which fish upon the coast between Cape Ray and Cape St. John, I believe?—A. There appear to be two classes of vessels which fish between Cape Ray and Quirpon, forming the western coast, and part of the coast of the Straits of Belle Isle; and another, and totally different class of vessels which fish from Quirpon to Cape St. John. The vessels that fish between Quirpon and Cape St. John are very large, but the fishery is almost exclusively carried on in open boats, close inshore, simply because the water is profound and deep close inshore along the northeastern Atlantic coast, whereas upon the gulf coast of Newfoundland in many places it is shoal; and there is a class of fishermen there called the *Desfileurs*, who are supposed to follow the cod from the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon up to the extreme northern point of the Island of Newfoundland, where they join the French fishermen at the port of Quirpon.

Q. The *desfileurs* fish sometimes within three miles of the shore and sometimes outside of this limit?—A. They fish more frequently, I believe, outside; and then we have a class of men who fish in dories alto-

gether, and who fish altogether inshore. Now, I have here a statement showing the number of men who fish in dories close inshore on the western coast and the number of so-called *desfileurs*, those that are alleged to follow the cod. I need scarcely say that this term arises from a misinterpretation of the habits of the fish. They merely intercept the different schools of cod and caplin as they come in from the gulf to the coast to spawn, according to the gradual rise of the temperature with the seasons, as they progress farther to the north.

Q. And the large vessels that fish between Cape St. John and Quirpon anchor in the harbors and fish in dories close inshore?—A. The dories fish close inshore, but the seiners may coast along for some considerable distance. You are aware of the fact that the vessels are dismantled, so to speak, and laid up, for the large vessels have nothing to do with the cod-fishing during the season, on the northeastern Atlantic coast. This is altogether a boat-fishery; they require, of course, larger boats than dories to manage large seines.

Q. The vessels anchor in the harbors there during the whole of the fishing season?—A. Yes.

Q. And the fishery is carried on in boats?—A. Yes; that is to say, on the northeastern Atlantic coast.

Q. And the fish which are caught in boats are taken within the three-mile limit, close inshore, and along the shore?—A. As far as I saw, this was the case along the coast between Cape St. John and Partridge Point; but, of course, there were certain portions of the coast which I did not see.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. Professor Hind, I find here a book, purporting to be issued by you, entitled "Fishery Commission, Halifax, 1877. The effect of the Fishery Clauses of the Treaty of Washington on the Fisheries and Fishermen of British North America, by Henry Youle Hind, M. A.; Halifax, 1877." Is that your product?—A. Yes.

Q. You wrote it?—A. Yes.

Q. And had it printed?—A. Yes.

Q. It is marked "confidential"; will you kindly explain what that means in this connection?—A. My instructions were to have the word "confidential" printed upon it; and it was not permitted to go out of the hands of the printer until special instructions were received for that purpose.

Q. Then this was not your own private undertaking under your own responsibility?—A. No.

Q. You could not control it?—A. Certainly not.

Q. You furnished it?—A. Yes.

Q. To others?—A. Yes.

Q. Who could control it?—A. Yes.

Q. For whom it was written?—A. I received instructions to place it, when it was written, in the hands of the printer, from the commissioner of fisheries of the Dominion of Canada.

Q. The commissioner of fisheries?—A. Yes.

Q. Who holds that office?—A. Mr. Whitcher.

Q. You received such instructions from him?—A. Yes—in relation to the printing of it.

Q. And you placed it in his hands?—A. Yes.

Q. By whom were you requested to prepare it?—A. Originally by Mr. Whitcher.

Q. You make a distinction; you say "originally"; was there any

change subsequently?—A. No; I say originally, because the history of this matter commenced some time back. Do you wish me to describe it?

Q. If you please?—A. It is simply this: When I came from Newfoundland, in May last, I was requested to put together the various facts with which I was familiar in relation to fisheries, and especially in connection with ocean physics, and such like; so I commenced to do so immediately afterwards, and this was the result.

Q. Were you requested to do so by any officer of the Dominion Government?—A. Yes; by Mr. Whiteher.

Q. He asked you to put these facts together?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not confine yourself to Newfoundland?—A. O, no.

Q. This is a great book, comprising 150 very large pages, relating to the mackerel, herring, and other fisheries, with chapters on the effect of the Washington Treaty upon the United States, and the general condition of the United States fisheries, and the total extinction and disappearance of cod in certain places, &c.; it purports to be an argument regarding the effect of the fishery clauses of the Treaty of Washington on the fisheries and fishermen of British North America; were your instructions to prepare such a book?—A. The matter was left to myself.

Q. To prepare what you like?—A. Not what I liked; but to prepare a paper on the general subject of fisheries connected with the Washington Treaty. No definite instructions were given me at all.

Q. Does this title describe fairly the work which you undertook to do?—A. I think it does, at least as far as a title can do so; but you might describe it in a different way.

Q. At all events your name was put to it and you approved it?—A. Certainly.

Q. Then of course you understood that you were to write upon the effect of the fishery clauses of the treaty upon the British fisheries and British fishermen?—A. No; I did not understand anything of the kind; that was left entirely to me; no instructions were given me at all with regard to what I should write; I was merely to describe what I knew with respect to the fisheries of British North America, and particularly with their relation to the Treaty of Washington.

Q. You were to describe the effect of those clauses upon these fisheries?—A. Yes.

Q. And the fishermen?—A. Yes.

Q. And that is what you undertook to do?—A. Yes.

A. And that you put into the hands and left to the discretion of an officer of the Dominion Government?—A. I beg your pardon.

Q. When you had finished the manuscript you put it under the control and discretion of an official of the Dominion Government?—A. Certainly not.

Q. Perhaps I have misunderstood you?—A. That was not the case. At the time when I received the instructions, in the first instance, of course, I was told to place it in the hands of the printer.

Q. When it was completed?—A. Yes.

Q. You were not to print it of your own option?—A. No.

Q. You were to print it or not, according as you received instructions?—A. Yes.

Q. Then, having received instructions to print it, you did put it into the hands of the printer?—A. Yes; I placed my manuscript in the hands of the printer.

Q. And you superintended the printing of it?—A. I corrected the proofs.

Q. When it was completed, did you take out any copyright?—A. No.

Q. When it was completed, what was done with it?—A. The edition remained at the printer's office; some few copies were, however, taken out of his hands; I, for example, took six copies out, under instructions to send them up to the Waverly Hotel; and that is all I know about it.

Q. You sent them to the Waverly Hotel?—A. Yes.

Q. You took out six copies?—A. Yes.

Q. And the rest, you say, are in the printer's hands?—A. No; I think that nearly the whole of them are there, but some are in my possession.

Q. Was "confidential" suggested by you, or directly by the officer of the government who had charge of it?—A. It was directed to be placed there by the officer of the government.

Q. So that you then had no right to let any one see it without his consent?—A. I had no right to do so.

Q. You were asked by Mr. Thomson, I think, how long you had made a specialty of sea-fish?—A. Pardon me, not of sea-fish, but of ocean physics.

Q. Then you have never made of sea-fish a specialty?—A. Certainly not.

Q. But you have of ocean physics?—A. Yes.

Q. That relates to the animal life of the ocean?—A. No; but it relates to the ocean and its temperature, and, for instance, to winds and ice.

Q. And the formation of the bottom of the sea?—A. O, that would come in, certainly. Every material thing that affects the sea is included under that head.

Q. You have not made a special subject of the fisheries?—A. No.

Q. Then as you are not particularly acquainted with the fisheries, perhaps your attention has been given for many years past to chemistry and geology and mining?—A. Yes; by profession, I am a geologist.

Q. We are familiar with your name in connection with the gold mines of Nova Scotia.—A. Yes.

Q. I believe that when gold-mine stock was put on the market at Boston you presented a certificate touching it?—A. No; never.

Q. Did you never give such a certificate?—A. No.

Q. You are confident of that?—A. Quite.

Q. You issued two or three books about this matter?—A. No; I did not.

Q. They appeared in your name?—A. I have nothing to do with that; they are documents belonging to the government.

Q. We have records of the different gold districts published as late as 1869, 1870, and 1872, by Henry Youle Hind, M. A.—A. If you will kindly turn over a page you will see that these are official documents addressed to the government of Nova Scotia.

Q. This is a record of the Sherbrooke gold district together with a paper on the gneisses of Nova Scotia?—A. Yes.

Q. And a paper on the gold-mining district of Nova Scotia, read before the Geological Society of London and the Society of Arts in London?—A. Yes.

Q. Were they first read there, and then incorporated into reports?—A. They only form part of a report. They were first read before the Geological Society of London, and discussed, and also before the Society of Arts, and discussed there; and then they were introduced in a report.

Q. These were material out of which you form a part of your report?

—A. I should rather say not ; the report is given independently of this ; they are adjuncts to a report.

Q. And not part of the report at all ?—A. Certainly not.

Q. The report is given with that paper ?—A. Yes.

Q. The paper was read as mentioned, and not the report ?—A. Yes ; the paper was read.

Q. The last one is dated 1872 ; I merely put the question, in order to ascertain the exact field of inquiry to which you have given your attention ; then, in addition to mining, &c., your principal occupation during some years past has been the examination of the physics of the sea ?—A. That has been largely the case ; but I would not call it my principal occupation. My profession is that of a geologist.

Q. And a mining engineer ?—A. No.

Q. You are a geologist ?—A. Yes ; a geologist merely.

Q. And even the geography of the sea—if we may use that expression, though it is a rather contradictory term—is not your primary and principal occupation ?—A. No ; it is not my principal occupation.

Q. I will not trouble you with many questions about the habits of fish, as you do not profess to be an expert on that subject ; your belief about codfish is, that it is not migratory ?—A. Certainly.

Q. And where do you think it goes ; does it disappear during the season, or do you always find it in about the same waters ?—A. It is always in about the same waters ; but I imagine that it has a certain very limited migratory movement, following its food a distance perhaps of from 15 to 20, or 50, or 100 miles.

Q. Do you think that it disappears out of the Gulf of St. Lawrence ?—A. Certainly not ; the cod is there all the winter through.

Q. It does not go out at any particular time through the Straits of Belle Isle or between Newfoundland and Cape Breton ?—A. No ; the cod can be caught in the Straits of Belle Isle up to Christmas.

Q. And how soon afterwards ?—A. As early in the spring as the ice moves, and even under the ice.

Q. The difficulty in catching it in winter is not caused by the absence of the fish but by the presence of the ice ?—A. Yes ; the practical difficulty then is to get at the fish.

Q. The fish are then there ?—A. Yes.

Q. Then the cod do not move from place to place in the gulf in pursuit of any particular food ?—A. Certainly not ; outside schools may occasionally go in, but this is not generally the case. I believe that all the schools of cod are, comparatively speaking, local in their habits.

Q. And the cod spawn in cold water ?—A. Yes, and in the coldest water.

Q. In the coldest water short of ice ?—A. Yes ; short of fresh-water ice—that is to say, a temperature of 32°.

Q. Up to what figure ? You say that is the lowest.—A. That depends entirely upon the marine climate in which the cod are born, so to speak ; you are aware that the habits of the fish on the coast of North America differ materially, in connection with the difference in marine climates, from the habits of the same species of fish found on the European coast. All along the coasts of England, Ireland, and Scotland, and of Norway, the diminished effects of the Gulf Stream are experienced.

Q. I would like to have you state if you will undertake to do so, and if this comes within your knowledge, what is the other and highest degree at which cod will spawn ; you say that they will spawn when the water is little short of 32 degrees, and is the other limit 34 degrees ?—A. I would put the spawning temperature between 32 and 40 degrees.

Q. I think you have stated in your testimony that the thermometer on the New England coast, the Grand Bank and George's Bank, &c., is at 40 degrees at a certain period, owing to the action of the Arctic current?—A. That is the case at the bottom but not at the surface.

Q. Do you mean to say that?—A. I certainly say so; and I especially quoted Professor Verrill on the marine life of the George's Bank, stating that the temperature there is 40 degrees or below it.

Q. I will read a portion of your testimony to see whether I understood you; it is as follows:

The effect of every current in the ocean is to bring the cold stratum of water which lies at a depth of ten or fifteen or twenty fathoms near to the surface, and one reason why on Orphan and Bradley Banks the water is invariably cold is, that the temperature is thus affected by the currents which bring the cold water to the surface. That is the reason why the water is always 14° or 16° colder on the Grand Banks than in the surrounding deep sea, simply because the cold Arctic current is forced up and is brought to the surface. Over the George's shoals the marine life is that of the temperature of about 40 degrees. So also is the spawning-grounds of the mackerel of Massachusetts Bay.

Q. Then what do you mean by saying that the temperature of life is always about 40 degrees?—A. That is the temperature indicated the marine life that is found on the rocks on the George's shoals; for instance, the species of shell-fish, the different varieties of shrimps and the different species of star-fish.

Q. Or any other fish?—A. Well, those are not true fish, but different marine animals.

Q. You named some fish?—A. The cod is found there.

Q. Then there is a temperature sufficient for the spawning of cod on George's Bank?—A. Most certainly, in the month of February; but the temperature rises materially in May. The temperature on George's Bank is sometimes that of the Gulf Stream, which in summer flows over it and drives at such times the cod away.

Q. How far must you go down in May to get a current of water or zone of water of the temperature of 40 degrees?—A. Where?

Q. On George's Bank?—A. The water on the George's shoals is only eight fathoms deep in some parts.

Q. Just take the lower part of the shoals, or the region just around it?—A. I should say that in February you would find a portion of the water on the George's shoals considerably lower than 40 degrees. I should imagine that the temperature on these shoals would then be 32 degrees, or lower than that. The mean temperature on the Grand Banks in February is 31 degrees.

Q. As to the spawning-grounds of mackerel in Massachusetts Bay, you say that is the same; you say as to these spawning-grounds of mackerel, that the Arctic current there produces a cold temperature of about 40 degrees; is that correctly reported?—A. Yes; but then it has to be understood that for this you take the proper months of the year. The temperature of the water varies with every month of the year.

Q. To and fro?—A. Yes.

Q. Steadily?—A. It varies to and fro with great regularity.

Q. During what months of the year is the temperature the lowest in Massachusetts Bay?—A. February. In some parts of this bay salt-water ice forms.

Q. Then we may assume that it is cold enough there for the spawning of fish that so spawn?—A. Certainly.

Q. Will you state what you mean by speaking, as I understood, of the mackerel coming into the Bay of St. Lawrence, and striking first at

the Magdalen Islands; do you find that to be the case?—A. I think you must be mistaken.

Q. Which come in the first, mackerel or herring?—A. The herring.

Q. You say that the Grand Banks, the southern coast of Newfoundland, and that neighborhood, is the great home of the cod. Perhaps you will also add in this enumeration the Labrador coast, all the way up, as far as you are acquainted with it?—A. No; I would not.

Q. What is the great home of the cod?—A. On the American coast it is the Grand Banks, and the southern shore and the northeastern shore of Newfoundland.

Q. That is their great home to-day?—A. I apprehend that that is their great home.

Q. Their great home, of course, is where there are banks?—A. Yes; generally where there are banks, but it is not necessarily so.

Q. I do not want theory but facts?—A. As to the southern coast of Newfoundland, this is not a matter of theory at all, for they are to be found there in 200 fathoms of water; they are constantly taken there; 150,000 quintals are caught in that part in from 100 to 200 fathoms of water.

Q. They are taken there?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you mean to say that their home is not necessarily on the banks?—A. Yes.

Q. I do not believe that the absolute necessities of the cod are known to science.—A. It is, perhaps, a misapplication of the word "necessarily," for which I must apologize. What I meant was this, that the reason why the cod is found on the Grand Banks, and the reason why it is found at the depth of 200 fathoms, near to the Grand Banks, is because the Arctic current is exceedingly broad there, and on the southern coast of Newfoundland there is a deep passage for it; hence, it passes also between the Grand Bank and the coast of Newfoundland, and the waters are consequently cold enough for and consonant to the habits of the codfish.

Q. Do you think that the cod is not found where there is no Arctic current?—A. I think it is always to be found where there is an Arctic current.

Q. The depth at which the cod must swim in each locality at each period of the year would depend mainly on the depth of the Arctic current?—A. I should not put it in that way.

Q. I dare say that you can state it much more clearly?—A. I would say that the depth at which they swim is entirely dependent on where their food is to be found. They are not bottom feeders, in the ordinary sense of the term according to the old popular meaning, but at certain seasons of the year they are bottom feeders, and at other seasons of the year they follow their food elsewhere.

Q. Will they follow their food irrespective of the coldness of the temperature?—A. I think not.

Q. Taking their desire for food and their desire for cold baths—taking it altogether—how do you think it is generally true that they are to be found wherever there is an Arctic current flowing?—A. I think there is no doubt that, within certain geographical limits, the cod is always found within the Arctic current; and I do not think you can name any month during which the cod is not thus found within certain geographical limits. I do not say, for example, that on our coast of America, they are found north of 70 degrees, but in Europe they are found far north of 70 degrees.

Q. Taking the coast of America, where do you put these geographical

limits?—A. At Disco Island, for commercial purposes, but the Esquimaux take cod far north of that.

Q. What is the southern limit?—A. For commercial purposes, I should say Cape Cod.

Q. Not George's Bank?—A. That is not farther south than Cape Cod.

Q. When you speak of cod being found off the coast of Newfoundland, to how many fathoms do you refer?—A. It is caught there in 200 fathoms.

Q. What distance would that ordinarily be from the shore?—A. That varies very much; some deep inlets there vary in depth from 150 to 200 fathoms. Of course, I can produce a map or chart, if you like, and show you those localities.

Q. Taking the western shore of Newfoundland—you know the limits, of course; you have written this book on the subject of the effect of the Washington Treaty on the British fisheries and fishermen, and you know, of course—what is the American limit under the Treaty of 1818?—A. Yes; I do.

Q. Within those limits, what would ordinarily be the distance of 150 fathoms from the shore?—A. Well, I could not say; but it is very close to the shore—2, 3, or 4 miles from it.

Q. It is not necessarily at a distance of 3 miles from the shore, of course?—A. Not necessarily; certainly not; that distance has nothing at all to do with it.

Q. When you come inside of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the great places for cod wherever they are to be found are usually in considerable depth of water?—A. Not necessarily, but usually. For example, the first place, so far as is known, where the cod appears in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is Natashquan, a peninsula on the Labrador coast, not very far from the eastern extremity of Anticosti.

Q. Are they found on Banks there?—A. Yes; outside Natashquan; and there is a reason why they are found there.

Q. Do you regard the mackerel fishery as a precarious and uncertain kind of fishing?—A. Yes.

Q. The habits of fish cannot be understood; we will never know or be able to make this fishery anything like a certainty; it is a lottery to a great extent?—A. I think not. I think that the Gulf of St. Lawrence mackerel fishery can be made much more certain than it now is; and if you wish, I will describe how this can be done.

Q. If you can do so, and reconcile it with your statement that it is a precarious and uncertain fishery, yes.—A. It is a precarious and uncertain fishery in this way: unfortunately, throughout the gulf, the mackerel fishery is chiefly carried on by means of open boats.

Q. You mean to say that this fishery is thus carried on by the inhabitants of this country?—A. Yes; and hence, in the first place, they lose to a very great extent, the great benefits of the spring mackerel fishery in certain localities. For example, they lose the spring mackerel fishery on the Bradelle (or Bradley) Bank. They have not decked boats, which would enable them to take advantage of the spring mackerel fishery there. Secondly, they labor under the great disadvantage of not being able to follow the mackerel when they move under the influence of the wind from one side to the other side of the Bay of Chaleurs; and in the third place, they cannot follow the mackerel when, under the influence of the wind, these fish pass from the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, via Point Des Monts and Cape Chatte, to the south shore; fishing, as they do, in open boats, they cannot take advantage of these

opportunities. There are three points in this regard. Then, again, on the coast of Prince Edward Island, owing to the uncertain winds which set in there, the mackerel move from one point in the great bight to another point; and if they possessed sailing-boats or decked boats, which would enable them to remain out one night or two or three nights, they would then be able to follow these fish to a much greater extent than they now do. These are four points in respect of which the use of decked boats or vessels of from 15 to 20 tons would enable them to add materially to their present profits. At the present time these fishermen make a mere living, but if they were to carry on this fishery in the way I have mentioned, it would become to them exceedingly profitable.

Q. You mean that this would be the case if they had large vessels?—A. Yes; vessels of larger size, of from 18 to 20 tons, for example.

Q. The Americans have very large fishing-vessels?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it a precarious and uncertain business to them?—A. It is, in this way: The great difficulty with them is to reach the gulf in time to take advantage of the spring fishery. You very rarely find the Americans enter the Gulf of Saint Lawrence and reach Orphan or Bradell (or Bradley) Bank or the Bay of Chaleurs save for what is called the summer fishery. This fishery takes place after the fish have spawned; and in consequence of this fact they lose in the gulf the advantages of the spring fishery which they gain on their own shores.

Q. Then there is a spring fishery on the American shore?—A. Certainly.

Q. Which they gain?—A. Yes.

Q. Is it still true, as you remark somewhere, that the mackerel are found in great numbers on the New England coast in the summer and autumn?—A. I do not think that is the case there in summer; but I think that in autumn the mackerel come in there; I am not aware of their coming in there in large numbers in summer; I think that the temperature of the water there is too warm for them.

Q. You say:

When the mackerel has appeared on the coast of the United States and the southern part of New England, they are so poor that they cannot be sold for food; but after they have spawned, in May, they rapidly increase in fat, and are taken in great numbers in the summer and fall?

Q. A. Yes.

Q. That is what I read from your book?—A. Will you refer to the page?

Q. This is on page 79, sixty-sixth article?—A. You will observe that this is a quotation.

Q. I do not see that—no quotation-marks are here?—A. It refers to No. 6, and is a quotation from the Report of the United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries.

Q. Indeed, the quotation ends on page 79, with the 1st, 2d, and 3d paragraph.—A. True, it is not strictly a quotation, but a reference to a quotation.

Q. A reference?—A. Yes; to a quotation from the Report of the United States Commissioner of Fisheries.

Q. You stated that it was a quotation?—A. It amounts to the same thing; it is a reference.

Q. I cannot agree with you in this; to refer to a book is not to quote?—A. You are quite right; I refer to the book as an authority.

Q. For your own language?—A. Strictly speaking, it is not a quotation.

Q. I was misled by your using the word "quotation"; I thought you meant a verbal quotation.—A. I did not mean that.

Q. You refer to the United States Commission of Fisheries Report when you say :

After they spawn in May they rapidly increase in fat, and are taken in great numbers in the summer and fall.

Did you mean to put that in, thinking that it was incorrect or untrue?—

A. Certainly not. If you refer to the paragraph you will see that I say : "Vide United States Fishery Report, page 64."

Q. That is the place from which you cite as an authority?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you not suppose it to be true?—A. O, I supposed it to be true to a certain extent; in fact, I believed it to be true. I consider that the statements made in Professor Baird's report are true, as far as his knowledge goes.

Q. Have you changed your mind at all as to the fact that they do "rapidly increase in fat and are taken in great numbers in the summer and fall?—A. I never formed an opinion touching the fishery on the New England coast. I state here "on the southern part," and I think you will find that this limits the area amazingly.

Q. You allude to the southern part of New England?—A. Yes; and that limits the area amazingly. I believe that is a spot where the Arctic current comes up.

Q. What do you think of the autumn fishery on the New England coast? You have spoken of it in several places in this book.—A. I think that the mackerel come in there again in the fall.

Q. You think that they disappear during the summer?—A. They disappear and go into colder zones of water.

Q. They sink or go out.—A. They sink simply because the cold zones sink; that is to say, the cold zones retire farther and farther from the warm coastal waters, and the mackerel follow them, and as the fall approaches the fish come nearer and nearer the coast.

Q. They make another incursion on the New England coast in the autumn?—A. Yes.

Q. Then perhaps you would say that on the southern coast of New England they increase rapidly in fat and are there caught in great quantities in the summer and autumn, and that on the rest of the New England coast they are caught in the spring, and again as the weather becomes colder in the autumn?—A. I should think that very probable.

Q. And you do not think that the mackerel appear off Cape Cod, as elsewhere described, very fat and in excellent condition in October and November, coming down there from the Gulf of St. Lawrence?—A. Certainly not.

Q. You do not adopt what we call the fishermen's theory in this respect, in which they still believe?—A. No; in the paper which at your request I placed in your hands yesterday, I especially enter into a discussion on that subject and point out how it is improbable that the mackerel pass through so many isothermal lines in ascending and descending order; this is physically improbable, and in that paper I so point it out.

Q. I suppose that you once held the opinion to which I have referred, and that you did until you examined into the subject, as did most men of science?—A. I did so until I read a paper written by Mr. Whitcher; when I had read that very excellent paper, I was perfectly satisfied that it was not the case.

Q. And you think that this is the present scientific opinion?—A. Yes.

Q. Some tables appear on page 81 of your book, and you say :

Captain Atwood enumerates in his "Remarks on the Fisheries of the Coast of Massachusetts," published in the Report of the United States Fishery Commissioners for 1841-72, 14.1 the following years as noted for extreme variation in catch.

1831—Great catch, 385,559 barrels inspected.

1831-1839—Gradual falling off.

1839-1844—Fell to 75,000 barrels in a year.

1841—Only 50,992 barrels.

1841-1861—Gradual increase.

1861-1871—200,000 barrels.

1871 (6)—234,000 barrels.

Now, to your mind, does that table show a steady falling off and decrease of the mackerel fisheries of the United States?—A. A steady falling off?

Q. Yes; and decrease throughout all the period from 1831 to 1871.—

A. No. It shows a series of fluctuations.

Q. Then you do not consider that the fisheries of New England are in a state of ruin?—A. To what fisheries do you allude in particular?

Q. I allude in the first place to the mackerel fishery; do you consider that the mackerel fishery of New England is ruined?—A. Certainly not.

Q. In some respects it is rather increasing, is it not?—A. I think that it is liable to increase and decrease; it is subject to great fluctuations.

Q. Take halibut, haddock, and that kind of fish; is this fishery in a state of ruin, or anywhere near it?—A. I think that the halibut fishery there is in a state of rapid deterioration.

Q. You think that there are none caught on George's Bank?—A. I think that there are a great many caught at George's Bank, but not so many, or nearly so many, as was formerly the case.

Q. Do you not know that there has been a very great catch of them of late years, and that there have been found, not on George's, but near George's, at a depth of 200 fathoms of water, a very large quantity of halibut?—A. I have no doubt that they will find them all round the Gulf of Maine at that depth—in what is described as St. George's Gulf, just in the same way as I think they will find them throughout the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in deep water.

Q. I suppose that the necessities of the great market of New York and elsewhere has caused more attention to be given to the pursuit of halibut than was formerly the case?—A. That is a commercial question which I cannot answer.

Q. Leaving out the reason, has there not, for some reason or other, been more attention paid to the pursuit and discovery of halibut, and a real increase in the product? I do not mean in the number of halibut in the sea, but in the number of them taken to market?—A. I cannot say; but I can draw your attention to a very remarkable statement with regard to halibut, of which, perhaps, you are aware, namely, the representations that have been made by American fishermen to the French consul in Boston, for permission to fish for halibut on the Newfoundland coast, at present in the supposed occupation of the French; this shows a strong desire to seek halibut in every direction.

Q. How does that matter bear upon the question whether halibut is not to be found on the southern coast of New England, near the George's Bank, or about there, in very great abundance, and that there has been an additional stimulus, for some reason or other, given to the halibut fishery?—A. I did not understand that you put that question.

Q. That is my question. Now you say that the Boston fishermen have applied to the French consul for such permission?—A. Certain

Boston fishermen have applied to him for that purpose. This was many years ago.

Q. How many?—A. It must now be eight or nine years ago.

Q. For liberty to fish on what is called the French coast?—A. Yes, in Newfoundland; that fact is mentioned in the Report of the United States Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries.

Q. Did it go no further? Was the French minister addressed on the subject?—A. I am not aware of that having been the case; but as far as I could and can judge, the extreme jealousy of the French—the jealous manner in which they regard all their fisheries—made it a hopeless case.

Q. Has the French Government, through its diplomatic agent at Washington, or in France, or has the American Government, through the Secretary of State or any one else, ever taken up that subject?—A. The subject was brought up through the instrumentality of the French Government; it was also done through the instrumentality of their agent in the United States.

Q. Do you mean the consul at Boston?—A. No; but through the agent of the French Government, who was sent to the United States for the purpose of inquiring into their fisheries; and his representation was made to the French minister; but the applications had been made to the French consul in Boston.

Q. Then the French minister was told that certain persons in Boston had so applied to the French consul there?—A. Yes.

Q. And nothing more came of it?—A. I am not aware of that having been the case.

Q. On page 91 of your book, under the head of certain conclusions which you reach on this subject in connection with the Washington Treaty, you say:

The mackerel catch is a special industry, and requires sea-going vessels.

That you are prepared to say?—A. Yes.

Q. You continue:

The boat equipment so common throughout our British American waters is wholly unsuited to the pursuit of mackerel, which has been so largely carried on by United States fishermen.

A. Yes.

Q. That you still consider to be true?—A. Yes.

Q. That is, that the pursuit of mackerel should be carried on in large vessels such as the United States fishermen use?—A. Pardon me. I did not state it at all in that way. I explained a short time ago how it was that larger vessels should be used by the inhabitants of the Bay of Chaleurs, of Prince Edward Island, and elsewhere, in order to enable them to take advantage of the spring mackerel fishery; and if this was done, these fishermen would become wealthy instead of remaining poor.

Q. I did not like to call attention to the poverty or want of knowledge or of education of the people of the country.—A. Will you kindly point out where I have described these conditions?

Q. There are things which you have more right to say than I.—A. But I did not say them, I think.

Q. You say that—

The boat equipment so common throughout our British waters is wholly unsuited to the pursuit of mackerel, which has been so largely carried on by United States fishermen; and immense schools of mackerel are frequently left unmolested in the gulf and on the coast of Newfoundland, in consequence of the fishermen being unprepared with suitable vessels and gear.

Is that so?—A. Yes; this relates to the spring fishery, on Bradley Bank, for instance.

Q. Is this statement true?—A. It is; as I interpret it.

Q. As you now interpret it?—A. Yes; and as I always have interpreted it. It was written with that express view.

Q. It does not contain any limitation. It is said that—

Immense schools of mackerel are left unmolested in the gulf and on the coast of Newfoundland.

A. Yes.

Q. Are there immense schools there?—A. Yes.

Q. Which are beyond the reach of the boats?—A. Yes; especially during the spring.

Q. And, therefore, they are left unmolested in the gulf in consequence of the fishermen being unprovided with suitable vessels and gear. You continue:

It is, however, a reserve for the future, which, at no distant day, will be utilized.

Q. It is your hope and expectation that the people of the Dominion may take the fish in larger boats or vessels, which will enable them to put an end to this kind of disability and disadvantage under which they now labor? You also think that the fish telegraph system might be adopted and used as it is managed in Norway; that is, by telegraphing along the coast the presence of mackerel, I suppose?—A. Yes; and of fish generally.

Q. You think that eddies contain and hold together a great amount of fish food?—A. Certainly; of the free-swimming kind of fish food.

Q. And these eddies are formed by the action of currents and tides?—A. They are formed by the motion of the tide wave being impeded by the shelving coast, while dragging along or moving over any feeding ground.

Q. The tides meet one another?—A. Yes; but that is a different thing altogether.

Q. Do those eddies contain fish food?—A. Certainly. I imagine that every eddy will aggregate and draw into itself all the floating substances which it has the power to draw in.

Q. Therefore the eddies as well as the Banks and shoal parts of the gulf would be places where the fish would naturally go to find their food?—A. Free-swimming food—yes.

Q. To what depth do the tides affect the movement of the water?—A. That is a very difficult question to answer. It is supposed that they begin to affect, or rather that the bottom begins to affect the tide, which is the proper way of putting it, at a depth of about 500 feet: that is to say, as a tidal wave approaches the coast it begins to be affected when the bottom has a depth of a little less than 100 fathoms, and 100 fathoms is 600 feet; so you may put such depth at about 500 feet; but that effect would be unappreciable to ordinary observation.

Q. At what depth is it appreciable to ordinary observation?—A. I could not say; I know, for instance, that in the Bay of Fundy, at a depth of 50 fathoms, it is very appreciable, but that is an exceptional case. The geographical features of the province of Nova Scotia and of the coast of Maine have a wonderful effect upon the tides and in determining the depth at which they mix up the waters. But in the open sea the effect begins to be felt at a depth of about 500 feet. Outside of that it is merely an up and down movement of the particles of water, moving at the rate of about 1,000 miles an hour, following a wave like motion. It is only observable when it is multiplied by the tide breaking upon the coast, but

it begins, as I said, at a depth of 500 feet. But in the middle of the ocean it is unappreciable.

Q. You say it is an up and down movement?—A. It is a vertical movement altogether in the open ocean.

Q. That is, the advance movement is a very small proportion?—A. The motion is especially an undulatory movement at the rate of about 1,000 miles an hour. It is very similar to the undulation of sound. It is a vertical movement of the particles, and this movement is propagated to other particles.

Q. What do you mean when you speak of the particles moving at that rate?—A. No; that does not refer to the particles, but to the undulation—the wave. The undulation advances at the rate of one thousand miles an hour.

Q. I thought you meant the motion of the particles?—A. No.

Q. Then you say the mackerel are higher or lower, mainly according to the temperature zones?—A. Yes.

Q. These are affected by the winds?—A. Yes. They are greatly affected by the winds.

Q. By other causes? For instance, by the swing of the currents?—A. Yes; by the swing of the tide.

Q. In the shallow coast the appearance of mackerel close in is rather accidental, is it not?—A. No.

Q. What is it owing to?—A. The winds.

Q. They are driven in by the winds?—A. No, not at all. I have illustrated that point in the paper which I handed to you last night. I should like to refer to that. I especially illustrated that point with regard to the movements of the mackerel in the Bay Chaleurs and the effect of the winds on the various portions of the gulf. That determines the movements of the mackerel to an extraordinary extent. For instance, take the Bay Chaleurs. As a general thing the mackerel always go against the wind. An off-shore north wind in the Bay Chaleurs will cause the mackerel to go from the south coast to the north, and a south wind will cause the mackerel to move from the north and take an exactly contrary direction.

Q. You said something of this sort, that all the food for fish was brought from the northern regions; did I understand you correctly?—A. No; not exactly in that form. The word which I thought I used, and which in fact I did use, I believe, was that the "source" of all food is in the northern regions. I refer to the food of the cold-water fishes.

Q. Then the current does not create the food; it only brings it?—A. Yes.

Q. And you think it is born in the northern regions?—A. It is born wherever there is ice.

Q. Then does not another generation grow up in this neighborhood, or do you have a constant supply from the north? I want to see whether I understand one part of your testimony correctly. You say: "Although our seas appear to be very abundant in life, yet, nevertheless, they are almost deserts compared with the wonderful abundance of life in the northern seas, particularly on the Labrador and Greenland coasts during the summer months. The sea, at times, appears to be perfectly thick with life, and to such an extraordinary extent does life exist in the northern seas, that the thermometer is very materially influenced during a single night by animal and vegetable life. In a few hours the animal and vegetable life disappears utterly, and the thermometer sinks two, three, or four degrees, and the water becomes colder. On another day the zone of life rises again, but it is always being driven

to and fro by means of the Arctic current, and it follows the course of the great stream of ice which produces the cold in Labrador and the cold generally throughout the western world." That we are to understand to be so?—A. No; instead of the word "deserted," read "deserts." There is no sense in the word "deserted" in that place. You are comparing an imaginary thing with the actual.

Q. They are always deserts?—A. Comparatively.

Q. Compared with the northern abundance, &c.; is that true of cod as well as other fish?—A. No; the reference is more particularly to animalculæ and diatoms, which form the original source of food.

Q. You speak of food then, and not of fish?—A. Of food.

Q. "Appears to be perfectly thick." Now, do you mean the thermometer in the water or in the air?—A. In the water.

Q. Do you think that the temperature becoming cold affects the fish, or that the fish disappearing affects the temperature of the sea? Do you really think the life is so great as to affect the general temperature of the sea?—A. Yes; no doubt of it. That, you observe, is on the authority of Dr. Brown. I mentioned at the time I was giving that evidence that I had the extract here.

Q. It is not quoted by you?—A. No. I mentioned it at the time.

Q. Are they warm-blooded or cold-blooded animals?—A. Cold blooded animals, and the vegetable diatoms.

Q. Does it cause the thermometer to rise or fall?—A. To rise. They approach the surface, and when they disappear the temperature of the sea acquires its normal condition.

Q. Can you account in any way for cold-blooded animals causing the thermometer which is sunk in the sea to rise?—A. Certainly. In the first place will you allow me to ask you a question? What do you mean by a cold-blooded animal?

Q. What did you mean when you answered my question?—A. I didn't speak of cold-blooded animals. There is no such thing as a cold-blooded animal.

Q. There are such things as warm-blooded animals?—A. Yes.

Q. You said these animals were cold-blooded?—A. I said so merely because you said it. It is a popular expression. I will describe what is popularly meant by a cold-blooded animal, if you like.

Q. But you must have had something in your mind. It must have been a very fine distinction to answer my question as you did and then say such a thing does not exist?—A. A cold-blooded animal is—

Q. I would rather have you state if you please what is the nature of this animal that enables it to raise the thermometer?—A. I can tell you in two minutes if you will let me tell you what a cold-blooded animal is. The temperature of the blood of most fishes varies from two to four degrees above that of the medium in which they live. But there is a variety of animals whose temperature is much higher than that, and they are called warm-blooded animals. The whale, for instance, is warm-blooded. All those fish breathe in the very same way we do, only they take in less oxygen and somewhat less fuel, so to speak. These minute creatures that I have described, or rather which Dr. Brown described, as raising the temperature of the sea, generate an amount of heat by the decomposition of the carbonic acid gas. They are chiefly diatoms—a vegetable form.

Q. I am not a bit of a chemist, but pray tell me where does the carbonic acid gas come from?—A. From the sea water. All sea water contains carbonic acid.

Q. Now, the result of this is that they are warm-blooded?—A. No. They are not. You are a warm-blooded animal.

Q. Then you cannot answer without referring personally to me?—A. Well, I am a warm-blooded animal.

Q. That does not help me, because you do not appear in that capacity, but as a witness of certain facts. A man is a warm-blooded animal, and so is a seal?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, are these animals, or creatures, that cause this change in the thermometer—are they of the warm-blooded sort?—A. Certainly not.

Q. They are not cold-blooded?—A. There is no such thing as a cold-blooded animal.

Q. Then what can you predicate of them if they are not warm-blooded, and there is no such thing as a cold-blooded animal?—A. Fish are creatures whose temperature is from 2° to 4° above that of the medium in which they live. Diatoms are vegetables.

Q. They have blood?—A. Fish and animalculæ have.

Q. You did not attribute the fact to the blood?—A. The blood is the agent by which the heat is produced in animals.

Q. Then it is the existence of the blood in them that causes the heat to be produced and given out?—A. It is the existence of the blood which is the means of producing the heat.

Q. And that they communicate to the surrounding water?—A. Yes.

Q. And that causes the temperature to do which, to rise or fall?—A. To rise.

Q. Now, then, can you tell me hadn't you that in mind when you answered my question? I don't mean in the least to call your statement in question, but hadn't you all that in your mind when you answered my question that they were cold-blooded? You answered that they were cold-blooded.—A. I made use of it as a popular phrase.

Q. Would that as a popular phrase apply to a warm-blooded animal?—A. No, certainly not.

Q. You really think that these animals raise the temperature to that degree?—A. Yes, the mass of minute life raises the temperature by 2° or 3° , unquestionably so.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Are they visible to the eye?—A. Yes. They were also discovered to a considerable extent by Sir Wyville Thomson in the subarctic regions. You will find a full description of them published.

By Mr. Dana:

Q. The place where I found the reference in your testimony does not refer to Dr. Brown.—A. Yes, I referred, if you recollect, to the statements made in this manuscript.

Q. I mean in your testimony yesterday?—A. I referred to this manuscript.

(Witness states at this stage that the remark occurring in his testimony of yesterday, in reference to mackerel coming into the bay on the 20th of June, is correct. It appears that he had previously stated it was a mistake.)

Q. The mackerel spawn in deep sea, do they not?—A. Yes, sir. We have, however, no evidence here in America; but in Europe they have been caught far out in the sea.

Q. Have you any doubt that is true of the American coast?—A. No; I think they will spawn anywhere where the water is cold enough.

Q. You think they will spawn in the deep sea?—A. Yes.

Q. You were asked by Mr. Thomson to compare the two species of

testimony that he said had been before this tribunal—one class of testimony being that the large proportion, say two-thirds, of the mackerel were caught within three miles of the shores all through the gulf; the other class of witnesses stating that two thirds or three-fourths were caught outside and the remainder inside. You were asked which you would consider the true testimony, or, perhaps, the question would be put, which would be the most in accordance with your theory which you have stated here. You answered, as I understood, that the testimony of those who said two-thirds were caught inside would be more in accordance?—A. Yes, for the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Q. Including all parts of the gulf; is that taking the gulf as a whole?—Including the chief mackerel grounds, Prince Edward Island, Bay Chaleurs, and the north and south shores of the estuary of the St. Lawrence.

Q. Not including the Banks?—A. No.

Q. Then you didn't mean your answer to apply to the whole gulf, Banks, eddy, and everything?—A. No.

Q. I think it would have been misunderstood otherwise. The question where the greater part are caught depends somewhat, does it not, upon whether the people use boats or vessels, which depends upon conditions of convenience and economical considerations. There are various considerations which may induce people to fish, inside or outside. People that come in from a distance must come in large vessels, and would naturally fish outside, whereas people that live along the shores would catch with boats; so that, taking the question whether the fishing is done in the bay as a whole, it depends, does it not, upon a variety of circumstances?—A. I understood the question to be more particularly with regard to the manner in which the mackerel are caught inshore in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in contradistinction to the manner in which they are caught upon the American shore, and I think I stated that in the Gulf of St. Lawrence the tendency of scientific observation would be to show that the greatest portion of the mackerel are caught inshore, whereas on the American shore, owing to the temperature of the water, the greater portion would be caught outside.

Q. Would be found, rather?—A. Yes; would be found.

Q. The question as to where they would be caught would depend upon a variety of circumstances such as I have referred to. Those you don't include. You spoke of what was discharged from the mouths of rivers and the dams and factories, which prevented the passage up the rivers along the American coast of the fish from the sea, which you thought must have the effect of diminishing the number of the commercial fish which followed them. In this connection you spoke of what had been done here to remedy such evils; are you aware that in New England very great pains have been taken to secure the passage of the fish up beyond the dam?—A. Yes.

Q. And did you know that statutes had been passed, and decisions of the courts given, compelling even the oldest dams to allow a place for the passage of the fish?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Foster :

Q. In speaking of codfish I wanted to know if you were aware that within the last two or three years, off Block Island, at the mouth of Long Island Sound, large quantities of cod have been taken in new places, where they were not known to be before, and where they have not been fished for before, through the spring and autumn months?—A. Up to June they are caught, and then in the autumn.

Q. How do you account for that?—A. I do not. Professor Verrill accounts for it by a spur of the Arctic current coming in from the Nantucket shoals and passing around Block Island.

Q. There is a cold wave of water at that particular point?—A. Yes. In the month of June they are driven out by the Gulf Stream.

Q. But the mackerel are taken in substantially the same locality all through the season from early spring to late in the autumn, are they not?—A. I understand that all around the neighborhood of Block Island they are taken in early spring, and that is their great spawning ground.

Q. Undoubtedly they are taken in the early spring. Are they not in midsummer?—A. I was not aware of it. I never heard of any being taken then.

Q. Do you think it can be laid down as a rule that the mackerel off the United States coast are caught nearer inshore in the spring and fall than in the summer months?—A. Certainly.

Q. You are satisfied of that as a fact. I don't mean that it would be in accordance with your theory, but are you satisfied, from the observations of facts that you have made, that the actual facts will bear out that view?—A. Quite irrespective of theory, I judge solely from the various descriptions that I have heard that the fish in the spring and fall are largely inshore. In the summer it is not so. That is expressly said by Professor Verrill, not in regard to mackerel particularly, but as to all fish, in his elaborate report for 1872 as well as in the *American Journal of Science* for 1873.

Q. Well, I have seen Professor Verrill's report, but didn't you understand that the American skippers have been getting very large hauls of mackerel in the summer months as well as in the spring and autumn?—A. You mean away out a good many miles; certainly.

Q. And close in?—A. I don't know about close in; but I know they sail 30 or 40 miles out and get them in abundance.

Q. There is no question about that. Don't they also get them quite near inshore?—A. I think they do in Massachusetts Bay and near Stillwanger Bank.

Q. Would they not get them on the Banks wherever they are, pretty near shore or far out?—A. Always on the Banks in the locality of the Arctic current.

Q. Well, now, one or two more questions about the cod fishery I want to ask you. You spoke of the French fishing at St. Peter's; is not that an uncertain fishery, lasting only a short time?—A. There is a very remarkable circumstance connected with the French fishery.

Q. What is it?—A. It has been pointed out in a very elaborate manner by Admiral Cloué. It is this: that for the period of three or four or five years the French fishery on the Grand Banks is good, and then declines, but as soon as it begins to decline the French fishery on the northeast coast of Newfoundland begins to be good, and many of their vessels go there. That in turn will continue good for a period of three or four years, and then declines. Meanwhile the Bank fishery is recuperated.

Q. To what do you attribute that, or what do you infer from it?—A. I should be sorry to draw any special inference from a general statement like that. All the fisheries fluctuate. It depends very much upon the seasons of the year, and especially upon the temperature of the month of April. I have called especial attention to that in this paper.

Q. Now, the Gulf of St. Lawrence is a succession of Banks, some of which are laid down on charts and some of which are not big enough to get on the charts.—A. Well, I should not describe it in that way.

Q. Well, how many Banks do you know between the south coast of Anticosti, and from there down to Prince Edward Island?—A. In the first place there is the sixty-fathom line of soundings, and upon that there are several Banks.

Q. Here is a map attached to the British Case (handing map to witness); can you tell me by whom it was made?—A. No.

Q. Now, there are the Magdalen Islands and there are Bradley, Orphan, and Miscou Banks, and you know where Fisherman's Bank is. It is not down here. Taking the Magdalens as a center, it appears by the map that there is excellent fishing all around that region. We have heard of the fisheries on Bradley, Orphan, and Miscou Banks, and you have stated that Bradley Bank particularly was a great spawning-ground for mackerel. Now, was I not pretty near right in saying that after you get down a little way beyond Anticosti the body of the gulf is a series of Banks?—A. It is nearly all flat. So it is shown on Admiral Bayfield's chart. The soundings vary from 60 fathoms upward.

Q. I must have got it out of your books, that statement that there was a number of banks so small that they did not get down on the maps?—A. I have no doubt that statement is perfectly true, that there are a great many Banks that are not on the maps; but there are vast multitudes on the coast of Nova Scotia. It was in reference to that, I think, that I spoke.

Q. Whenever you find these Banks you expect to find mackerel?—A. We should think so.

Q. Whether these Banks are situated, as some of them are, 25 or 30 miles from the shore, or whether they are pretty near in?—A. I should think that made no difference at all.

Q. You don't think there are particular spawning-grounds for mackerel?—A. It depends upon the temperature.

Q. Wherever the fish happens to be when it is under the necessity of spawning, then it spawns just as an animal delivers its young?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, the mackerel do spawn away down south as far as Cape Hatteras on the American coast?—A. I am not aware of it.

Q. How far south do you think is the most southern point where they spawn on the American coast?—A. I don't know; I never heard of any south of Block Island. I can easily conceive that it is not impossible where the Arctic current surges up under the Gulf Stream that they should spawn, but I have never heard of any locality south of Block Island.

Q. I was under the impression that we had some evidence of it a good way further south, but perhaps not. Now, you spoke of a spring fishery for mackerel in the gulf which is not made use of. I would like to know how early you think mackerel could be taken in the gulf that would be more than number three commercially?—A. I could not say.

Q. Well, that would not be until some twenty days after spawning?—A. I think not. Probably they would be hardly fit to catch. There is a kind of food on which they feed immediately after spawning which fattens them up with wonderful rapidity.

Q. What is that?—A. The launce. That is the reason why they disappear immediately after spawning on Bradley or on any of these Banks. They disappear in pursuit of the launce.

Q. How early do you think they disappear from these Banks?—A. I think it is not at all difficult to ascertain if you take a mean of the times of their appearance during 12 or 14 years. They didn't appear this

year before the 1st of June. Some years it is considerably before that ; some years not until the 7th of June.

Q. When is the spring fishery over, and when does the summer fishery commence ?—A. About a month afterwards.

Q. You think they disappear early in June and reappear about the 1st of July ?—A. They reappear about the 1st of July.

Q. So that the United States fishermen who make their appearance on the Banks about the 1st of July, go there in time for the second appearance of the mackerel ?—A. For the summer, yes.

Q. But there is an abundance of earlier and poorer mackerel which anybody might get ?—A. A great abundance.

Q. Do you know whether, at that time, they take the hook readily ?—A. I don't know about that.

Q. That may be one reason why they have not heretofore been pursued ?—A. They have caught them in seines.

Q. I know, but there are no Americans here to catch them, and the provincial fishermen don't use seines ?—A. I think there is a record of an American vessel catching them with seines.

Q. You regard the mackerel fishing of the provincial fishermen as undeveloped ?—A. Yes.

Q. The fish are there to be caught, and what the people need is vessels and enterprise, skill, and industry to pursue them ?—A. Well, I would not go quite as far as that.

Q. What do they need ?—A. In the first place, I think they need a little guidance and instruction. They need also co-operative combination, and also capital.

Q. Now, would not those pass under the terms "capital and skill" of my question ? However, if they know how to do it, and could get money to build vessels, you think they could catch large quantities of mackerel early in the season ?—A. If they could get money to build vessels.

Q. Is there any present prospect of that industry developing ?—A. I think there is.

Q. Has there been anything done in that direction ?—A. I am not aware of it on the coast of Prince Edward Island ; I am aware of it on the coast of Newfoundland ; I am personally aware of a good deal having been done on the coast of Newfoundland.

Q. Not for mackerel ?—A. Not necessarily.

Q. You refer to the bounties they have offered ?—A. No ; to the co-operative system being beneficial.

Q. But is there in the provinces any tendency to engage at the present time in vessel-fishing for mackerel ?—A. I am not aware ; I do not know.

Q. There were vessels fishing a number of years ago here, but it died out ?—A. The mackerel fishery of Nova Scotia is enormous.

Q. Vessels ?—A. I can't say so much for vessels.

Q. It is vessel-fishing I am asking about, because you have spoken of the necessity of pursuing it in sea-going boats. You are not aware that there was a fleet of vessels here that has disappeared ?—A. No.

Q. Do you know the history of a company formed in Halifax for that purpose which has since disappeared ?—A. No ; I never heard of it.

Q. I notice here in your memorandum a report which is from the Department of Agriculture, by J. C. Tache, in which he undertakes to give the proportion of the catch from each province ?—A. Yes.

Q. He gives the catch of cod, haddock, herring, and mackerel. Do you know whether the figures are according to your views ? He puts

down Quebec as taking seven per cent. of the mackerel, Nova Scotia 80 per cent., New Brunswick 3 per cent., and Prince Edward Island ten per cent. Now, where off the coast of Nova Scotia would there be that quantity taken; 80 per cent. is the estimate on an average catch of 150,000 barrels a year. In 1875, it was 126,000; and in 1874, 164,000. I think a fair average would be 150,000 barrels. Now, 80 per cent. or that is taken off Nova Scotia. Whereabouts is it taken?—A. It is all around the coast of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. The mackerel frequently strike the coast of Nova Scotia for 100 miles in one night.

Q. These blue marks on the chart are intended to show the general course of the mackerel in pursuit of food. They are not always particular to stay out more than three miles or to come in within three miles? They vary?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, I was very much surprised to find 80 per cent. given as the proportion taken in Nova Scotia, because from the evidence we should think far the greater proportion came from Prince Edward Island.

Hon. Mr. KELLOGG. Is that the percentage for the provinces?

Mr. FOSTER. Yes; it is an estimate of the grand total catch of each province, and it follows a total giving the total catch from 1869 to 1875 inclusive. It seemed to me a most extraordinary thing, because the evidence of American vessels fishing on the coast of Nova Scotia is very little indeed.

Q. Can it be. You think it is right?—A. There is a simple explanation. They strike the headlands, and are all taken close inshore. They are taken by boats.

Q. There are no provincial vessels fishing for them, and this particular coast is not resorted to very much for mackerel?—A. No, but enormous catches are made by the provincial fishermen in boats.

Q. You understand that the Gulf of St. Lawrence is the place where the United States vessels go for fish?—A. Chiefly.

Q. I observe you spoke of Bay Chaleurs as if there were a good many mackerel there. Now, the evidence we have had of the amount of mackerel-fishing in the Bay Chaleurs is that it is quite small. Do you know about the quantity caught there?—A. I have been around there myself in 1863 or 1864, I think two or three years. I have seen a very large number of vessels there.

Q. There is no doubt that at that time there were a good many that went to Bay Chaleurs, but of late years do you understand there has been many—for the last four or five years?—A. I don't know.

Q. You omitted one thing that would be necessary to develop the fishing industry of the province here, I think. What other things are there that occur to you as likely to promote the fishing interests of the fishermen in the provinces?—A. There are several, I think; that is rather too wide a field.

Q. They ought to have a market, certainly?—A. I think they ought to have a market, certainly.

Mr. DANA. I wish to explain my ignorance of that book (Professor Hind's book on the fishery clauses of the Washington Treaty.) You state that half a dozen copies were sent to the Waverly House. They were not sent to the American counsel?

WITNESS. No.

Mr. DOUTRE That book is not filed here as part of your evidence. Therefore I do not see that this is a matter for investigation.

Mr. DANA. Do you object to my putting the question?—A. If you object I will not put it.

Mr. DOUTRE proposes to ask witness at whose request he prepared the book.

Mr. DANA. If the subject is to be dropped, that is one thing, but I do not think you should ask me to drop it and take it up yourself.

Mr. DOUTRE. O, go on.

Mr. DANA. Do you wish the subject dropped?

Mr. DOUTRE. No, we have nothing to conceal.

Mr. DANA. The unprinted one, the manuscript, I never saw until last night.

WITNESS. That is a continuation of the present one.

Mr. WEATHERBE observes that if the counsel for the United States had the manuscript book they were better off than the counsel for Her Britannic Majesty. He had not seen it at all.

Hon. Mr. KELLOGG. What is to be the use of this book? I don't understand.

Mr. DOUTRE. It was for our own use in examining the witness.

Hon. Mr. KELLOGG. I only want to know whether it is to be used by the board or not.

Mr. DOUTRE. No, not as part of the evidence.

Mr. DANA. I hope we have not been guilty of any mistake. The first part came here only yesterday, and Mr. Foster got it from the British Agent.

Mr. DOUTRE. Several copies were given to Professor Baird.

Mr. DANA. Not until after he had given his evidence.

By Mr. Trescot :

Q. With regard to the theory of this report, a great portion of which we have read with a great deal of interest, as I understand, the purport is that the advance in the study of ocean physics has been such that certain laws have been discovered, the application of which, like other scientific laws, will develop a large fishing industry if properly applied?—A. Certainly.

Q. You think that promise of increase in the extension of the fisheries ought to be taken into account in estimating their value?—A. Yes.

Q. Has the discovery of these laws advanced far enough to be practically applied within the next two or three years?—A. Certainly. They are already practically applied in Norway and by—

Q. Taking the habits of the fish into consideration, the orographic outline of the coast, the operation of the Arctic current and the Gulf Stream, the variation of the zone temperature, together with one or two other things, the winds and tides; all those considerations govern the question where the mackerel will be found. Now, is your knowledge of that habit sufficiently certain to enable you to say, at any given moment, that the mackerel will be there at such and such a time, on such and such a line of coast?—A. Certainly not. But there is now being instituted, under the auspices of the United States Government, a series of marine observations, especially under the direction of the Coast Survey, and all of those will pass through the hands of Professor Baird. Those are for the purpose of taking the temperature, not only at the surface but at certain depths below. But nothing has been done yet.

Q. That being the case, and you having admitted the American fishermen under the treaty of 1871, so as to make this practically one continuous line of fisheries dependent on each other, don't you think a system that would end by putting the whole thing under one joint commission would be a great deal better than any award of any kind?—A. I am not capable of answering the question so far as the award is concerned, but so far as the development of the fisheries is concerned it would be an immense advantage, there is no doubt.

By Mr. Doutre :

Q. I simply wish to ask you a question to bring out a full explanation in regard of this book —A. I have given every explanation.

Q. The government wanted to use your practical knowledge for its own guidance and requested you to prepare this information?—A. I presume so, but this manuscript book which I have prepared was prepared especially for my own evidence.

Q. When were you requested by the government to devote yourself to this business?—A. Well, I was requested in the first week in May. I received a telegram at St. John's, Newfoundland.

Q. You were requested by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to go to Ottawa?—A. Yes, and provided that the Newfoundland Government would agree that I should put off the expedition to the Labrador until next year I consented to go. I submitted the request to the Government of Newfoundland, made through the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and they agreed in the most cordial manner, and I at once went to Ottawa.

Q. You were put in communication with Mr. Whitcher?—A. Yes.

Q. You were to devote all your time and give the result to the government?—A. Since that I have devoted the whole of my time to the preparation of this report on the subject generally; since that time to the present moment.

By Hon. Mr. Kellogg :

Q. There is one point in your evidence with regard to layers of waters and the temperature of the water, and I understand you to say that the colder layer would come to the surface. Why would the colder layer come to the top, although it is of greater density?—A. In rushing over the Banks the cold water, which is at the bottom, forces the warm water up and it flows out on either side.

Q. You don't approve very much of the theory of the mackerel migrating. Probably you don't believe in it? You think they go into the mud and hibernate?—A. In the mud and sand.

Q. Well, to what extent do you believe they do so? Is that the way the great part of the mackerel dispose of themselves in the winter?—A. I think that is so, not only with the mackerel but with a number of other fish.

Q. Well, does that account for the disappearance of the mackerel during the winter to any considerable extent?—A. Yes.

Q. They go to the bottom or into the sand?—A. Yes.

Q. Well, to what extent do you think they do it?—A. I think they all hibernate just the same as the sturgeon in fresh water; and on the United States coast, the tautog, the scup, and other fish hibernate.

Q. How far do you think they go out? What number of fathoms to get into the mud?—A. It depends entirely on the ice. They always appear to select those spots where the salt-water ice shall not be drifted in, so that they will not be exposed to the cold current dropping down from the salt ice as it melts in the spring.

Q. Where does the American coast mackerel go? They don't have the Arctic waters there very much?—A. O, yes; the Arctic current is felt in winter nearly as far as Cape Hatteras.

Q. You spoke of the cod schooling. I had not understood that the cod schooled in the way that the mackerel schooled. How does the schooling show itself, in the same way as the mackerel?—A. Cod school like mackerel before spawning; they also appear to school at the beginning of each bait season. It is the schooling habit which enables them to be seined.

The following tables are the tables referred to in the evidence of Professor Hind :

No. 1.

Statistics of the French fishery on the Grand Banks, and the northeast coast of Newfoundland during successive periods from 1826 to 1856.

From 1826 to 1841.....	374 ships, 10,445 fishermen sailors.
From 1842 to 1847.....	389 ships, 11,378 fishermen sailors.
From 1848 to 1850.....	346 ships, 11,011 fishermen sailors.
From 1851 to 1856.....	383 ships, 11,348 fishermen sailors.

"Le Pilot de Terre Neuve," Vol. I, p. 26.

No. II.

Statistics of the French fishery on the Great Banks of Newfoundland and on the Northeast Coast.

Years.	Number of ships.	Number of men.
1860.....	256	11,134
1861.....	255	10,999
1862.....	238	10,465
1863.....	239	9,448
1864.....	180	7,175
1865.....	185	7,041
1866.....	197	7,071
1867.....	192	6,501

("Le Pilote de Terre Neuve," Vol. I, page 26.)

No. III.

Statistics of the French fisheries on the northeast coast of Newfoundland, from Cape Norman to Cape St. John.

Years.	Number of ships.	Number of men.	Ships fishing on the Grand Bank, and with drying on the northeast coast.	Number of men.
1860.....	105	6,180	4	122
1861.....	105	6,058	3	93
1862.....	112	9,593	3	93
1863.....	116	5,493	3	93
1864.....	58	3,264	7	274
1865.....	35	3,118	6	151
1866.....	57	2,758	17	369
1867.....	35	2,068	17	384

("Le Pilote de Terre Neuve," Vol. II, page 399.)

No. IV.

Statistics of the French bank-fishery on the Great Banks of Newfoundland, from 1860 to 1867.

Years.	Bank fishery, with drying at St. Pierre and Miquelon.		Bank fishery, with drying on northeast coast of Newfoundland.		Bank fishery, without drying.		Total.	
	Ships.	Men.	Ships.	Men.	Ships.	Men.	Ships.	Men.
1860.....	68	2,735	4	122	51	1,016	123	3,873
1861.....	61	2,558	3	93	58	1,172	122	3,853
1862.....	48	1,591	3	93	41	834	92	2,512
1863.....	40	1,480	3	90	44	866	87	2,436
1864.....	38	1,252	7	274	46	986	91	2,512
1865.....	42	1,515	6	151	55	1,048	103	2,714
1866.....	47	1,640	17	369	64	1,260	128	3,269
1867.....	51	1,761	17	384	69	1,466	137	3,611

("Le Pilote de Terre Neuve," Vol. I, page 25.)

No. V.

Statistics of the French fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Years.	Number of French ships.	Number of fisher-men sailors.	
1860	28	1,080	The Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon send to the West Coast about 15 schooners manned by 12 men. They dispatch also into the gulf about 120 to 160 men to man from 60 to 80 dorys to fish about Cod Roy and Red Island.
1861	28	1,088	
1862	34	1,354	
1863	36	1,519	
1864	31	1,399	
1865	27	1,209	
1866	22	1,043	
1867	20	822	

("Le Pilote de Terre Neuve," Vol. 1, page 246.)

Affidavits read in rebuttal by Mr. Whiteway.

No. 1.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Saint John's, to wit :

Thomas Rumsey, aged thirty years, fisherman, residing at Saint John's, aforesaid, maketh oath and saith : Deponent is well acquainted with the fisheries of Newfoundland, and is intimately acquainted with the herring fishery. Deponent, last spring, saw three United States herring seines used by American fishermen in "barring herrings" at Long Harbor in Fortune Bay, and knows that large quantities of herrings were "barred" by these seines and taken out afterwards by using their small seines, which these United States fishermen came down prepared with.

Deponent knows that United States fishermen are in the habit of using their own seines to inclose herrings on our coasts, and of employing British fishermen to assist in hauling these seines. Deponent knows of one instance in which United States fishermen brought down a large herring seine completely fitted out with seine boat and all necessary gear, which they sold to a person named Piander, at English Harbor, in Fortune Bay. Deponent further has heard and believes that another such seine was sold by United States fishermen to one Burke, at St. Jacques, in Fortune Bay, and in both cases the value of such seines was to be paid for by supplying these United States fishermen with herrings at nominal prices, hauled by these seines, the crews working the same being composed almost wholly of American fishermen. Deponent further says that he knows of one instance that happened last spring, in which a cargo of fresh herrings was hauled by a United States crew and vessel in Fortune Bay, aforesaid, and sold at St. Pierre as bait for French fishermen ; and that it has been stated—and as deponent believes truly stated—other United States fishermen did the same thing. Deponent has been informed that United States fishermen intend providing themselves with larger seines than those now used by them, (which are much larger than those by Newfoundland fishermen) and with these seines to engage largely in catching bait on Newfoundland's shores to supply French fishermen at St. Pierre.

THOMAS RUMSEY.

Sworn before me at St. John's, aforesaid, this 9th day of October, A. D. 1877.

D. W. PROWSE,

Stipendiary Magistrate, St. John's, Newfoundland.

NEWFOUNDLAND,

Central District, St. John's, to wit :

John Rumsey, of Fortune Harbour, in Fortune Bay, Newfoundland, maketh oath and saith : I have heard the foregoing deposition of my brother, Thomas Rumsey, read over. It is correct and true in every particular.

The name of one of the American captains is Jacobs. He formerly lived in Green Bay, Newfoundland. I cannot remember the name of the United States schooner that he commanded.

I have been engaged fourteen years in the herring fishery in Fortune Bay. I have been fishing for thirty years in Newfoundland.

his
JOHN + RUMSEY.
mark.

Sworn before me at St. John's, Newfoundland, this 9th day of October, A. D. 1877.

D. W. PROWSE,

Stipendiary Magistrate, St. John's, Newfoundland.

No. 2.

Robert Inkpen, aged 33 years, of Burin, Newfoundland, fisherman, maketh oath and saith : Deponent has been connected with the fisheries of Newfoundland since he was fourteen years of age, and has prosecuted the same almost continuously since that time. Deponent is acquainted with the bait-fishery in Newfoundland, and with the operations of United States vessels in British waters on our coasts. Deponent is well aware that no advantages result to British fishermen from these operations compared to the injuries to British interests, and is also well informed that the localities chiefly frequented by United States vessels are marked peculiarly as localities where the inhabitants are found in the most straitened circumstances. Deponent knows that United States fishermen did use their own seines in Fortune Bay last spring in hauling bait, and that they did so in the early part of the spring in contravention of a local law that prevented local fishermen hauling herrings before the 25th day of April, and loaded their vessels with about eight hundred barrels herrings, which they carried to St. Pierre, and there sold to French bankers. Captain Kirby was in charge of one of these United States vessels. Deponent says, further, that no money paid by Americans for bait is adequate to the injury they do to local fisheries and fishermen, and that all classes in this country agree in pronouncing their operations a great evil.

ROBERT INKPEN.

Sworn before me at St. John's, Newfoundland, this 26th day of October, A. D. 1877.

D. W. PROWSE,

Stipendiary Magistrate, St. John's, Newfoundland.

John Mitchell, aged 52 years, residing at Burin, Newfoundland, maketh oath and saith :

I was present when Robert Inkpen made the above statement, which I know to be true in all particulars.

JOHN MITCHELL.

Sworn before me, at St. John's, Newfoundland, this 26th day of October, A. D. 1877.

D. W. PROWSE,
Stipendiary Magistrate, St. John's, Newfoundland.

I, Frederic B. T. Carter, a notary public, duly admitted and sworn, practicing at St. John's, Newfoundland, do hereby testify that D. W. Prowse, who has subscribed his name to the jurat of the affidavit of Robert Inkpen and of John Mitchell, on the third page of this sheet of paper, is one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the island of Newfoundland; that the signature "D. W. Prowse, stipendiary magistrate, St. John's, Newfoundland," is the true handwriting of the said justice, and that full faith and credit ought to be given thereto in court and thereout.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my notarial seal and subscribed my name this 24th day of October, A. D. 1877.

(L. S.)

FREDERIC B. T. CARTER,
Notary Public.

No. 3.

Stephen Power, aged 38 years, trader and fisherman, residing at Placentia, Newfoundland, maketh oath and saith:

I am practically acquainted with the fisheries of this country, having followed the same since I was 14 years of age. I have been engaged by American fishermen in procuring bait in Placentia Bay. I found the seine and the Americans supplied the crew, and for my services as pilot, hire of seine, and my own aid in working the seine with the American crew I was paid twenty-seven dollars in May last by Captain Hickman, of the American schooner I. S. Glover. I am well aware that American fishermen do haul bait for themselves, and I am well informed that they brought down four large seines this year to Fortune Bay, which were worked exclusively for their purposes and advantages. Such seines were very much larger than those used by our own people, and are destructive to the herring fishery. These seines succeeded in procuring large quantities of herrings earlier than the local seines, owing to their great length and depth; one of them I heard barreled upwards of (4,000) four thousand barrels of herring at one time. The operations of such large seines are highly injurious to the fisheries.

STEPHEN POWER.

Sworn before me, at St. John's, Newfoundland, the 12th day of October, A. D. 1877.

W. J. S. DONNELLY,
Justice of the Peace for the Island of Newfoundland.

I, Frederic B. T. Carter, a notary public, duly admitted and sworn, practicing at John's, Newfoundland, do hereby certify that W. J. S. Donnelly, who has subscribed his name to the jurat of the affidavit of Stephen Power, on the second page of this sheet of paper, is one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the island of Newfoundland; that the signature, "W. J. S. Donnelly, justice of the peace for the island of Newfoundland," is the true handwriting of the said justice, and that full faith and credit ought to be given thereto in court and thereout.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my notarial seal and subscribed my name, this 24th day of October, A. D. 1877.

(L. S.)

F. B. T. CARTER,
Notary Public.

No. 4.

By Stephen Fiander, of Coombs Cove. I reside at Coombs Cove, Fortune Bay. I was engaged catching or trying to catch herring for United States vessels at Long Harbor last winter. I was concerned in the seine brought by Captain Deagle, of Edwin or Eben Parsons, in December last. I was one of the crew who hauled herring with it. None of the crews of United States vessels were concerned or employed in the use of said seine; we had it from Captain Deagle on condition of our selling to him all the herring which should be hauled with it. We hauled about 800 barrels, which we sold to him. We hauled them at Table Beach. Samuel Fiander bought it from him afterwards. I saw the crew of United States vessel Wildfire engaged hauling herring at Table Beach about first of January last. The captain of said vessel was with them; the seine and skiff they used belonged to the vessel, and was managed entirely by crews of United States vessels with the exception of one man, Bond, whom I saw with them. He, Bond, was to receive one share only (*i. e.*, one man's share). They inclosed that day about 300 barrels herring; they were not, however, all saved, as a gale of wind came on and the seine burst; I believe over half of the herring were thus lost. Captain Cunningham, master of said vessel, brought the purse-lines of the seine with him. The crews of United States vessels use those purse-lines when they haul herring; we British fishermen never use them. I heard Captain Deagle, of United States schooner Edwin or Eben Parsons; Captain Charles Lee, of United States schooner —, of Gloucester; and Captain Cunningham, of United States schooner Wildfire, say, that they would have whatever herrings they wanted with their own crews and seines if their crews were quite willing to do so.

his
STEPHEN + FIANDER.
mark.

Taken and sworn before me at Coombs Cove, the 16th day of October, 1877.

PHILIP HOBERT, *J. P.*

No. 5.

By Philip Thornhill, of Anderson Cove. I reside at Anderson Cove, Long Harbor. I was at Anderson Cove when Captain Allen, of the Bonanza, United States vessel, arrived from head of Fortune Bay, in June, 1876, where, I understood from crew of said vessel and others, she had hauled a large quantity of herring. I believe the hauling of the herring was done entirely by the crew of said vessel; there was one or two British fishermen on board, but I understood they had no share in the seine. The seine and skiff they used belonged to the vessel. I saw the crew of said vessel engaged hauling or trying to haul herring at Anderson Cove in June, 1876. The men employed at it were those of the vessel. I think they hauled some at Anderson Cove and salted them on board. I believe the seine and skiff was taken back by said vessel.

his
PHILIP + THORNHILL.
mark.

Taken and sworn before me at Harbor Breton the 16th October, 1877.

PHILIP HOBERT, *J. P.*

No. 6.

By George Rose, of Jersey Harbor. I now reside at Jersey Harbor, Fortune Bay. In June, 1876, Captain Allen, of United States schooner Bonanza, arrived at Little Bay (Bay de Lean), where I then resided, and told me he wanted to haul about 1,400 barrels herring in Fortune Bay; that he had a herring seine and skiff on board of his vessel, and everything else necessary for hauling, and asked me to go with him as master of his seine, and that he would give me twenty cents per barrel for every barrel of herring that was hauled. I agreed, and my son John and I went on board at once. We left and sailed for Long Harbor, but did not haul any herring there; from thence we sailed for head of Fortune Bay, where we hauled about 400 barrels, which were salted on board the vessel. The seine, skiff, and crew belonged to the vessel, and, as I have said, I was simply engaged as master of the seine. The men employed hauling the herring all belonged to the said vessel. After the 400 barrels herring were salted on board we returned to Long Harbor in her. We (*i. e.*, the crew of vessel and myself helping them) tried to haul herring there, but did not succeed. I left the vessel there and returned home. Captain Allen, the master of said vessel, paid me for my services the sum of eighty dollars; my son received nothing. I heard afterwards that he got at Long Harbor after I left about 1,000 barrels, but cannot tell if he hauled them all or if he hauled any. He told me he intended putting up the herring at Gloucester and reshipping them for Sweden.

his
GEORGE + ROSE.
mark.

Taken and sworn before me at Jersey Harbor the 17th October, 1877.
PHILIP HOBERT, *J. P.*

No. 7.

NEWFOUNDLAND,

Saint John's, to wit:

Maurice Bonia, of Placentia, aged 58 years, fisherman, maketh oath and saith: I have been connected with the fisheries of Newfoundland for forty years. I know that United States vessels are accustomed to be baited at Fortune Bay with seines they bring themselves, and which they work with the aid of local fishermen. Last June I went pilot with Capt. Lauchlin McLeod, of the schooner P. L. Whitman, hailing from Gloucester, United States of America, from Placentia to Piper's Hole, in Placentia Bay, to haul herrings for bait, for which purpose I used my own seine, and, with the aid of his crew and myself and my seine, he procured his bait. For my services as pilot and for hire of seine and assistance in working it, Captain McLeod paid me twelve dollars.

I am fully sensible that the American fishermen in our waters, using the privileges conferred by the Washington Treaty, are greatly injuring our people by their operations, and that absolutely no benefits result from their visits.

his
MAURICE + BONIA.
mark.

Sworn before me, at St. John's aforesaid, this 19th day of October, A. D. 1877.

H. RENOUF,
J. P. for Newfoundland.

I, Frederic B. T. Carter, a notary public duly admitted and sworn, practising at St. John's, Newfoundland, do hereby certify that "Henry Renouf," who has subscribed his name "H. Renouf, J. P., for Newfoundland," to the jurat of the affidavit of Maurice Bonia, written on the first page of this sheet of paper, is the proper handwriting of said Henry Renouf, one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for Newfoundland, aforesaid, and that full faith and credit should be given to his acts in said capacity as well in court as thereon.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my hand and seal of office and subscribed my name, this 20th day of October, A. D. 1877.

[L. S.]

FRED. B. T. CARTER,

Notary Public.

No. 8.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT, NEWFOUNDLAND,

Placentia, to wit :

Humphry Sullivan, of Placentia aforesaid, fisherman, personally appeared before me, Thomas O'Reilly, esq., one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the southern district of the island of Newfoundland, and maketh oath and saith that during the last half of the month of May last, deponent piloted from Placentia to Piper's Hole the American schooners Webster Lauburn, Hodgson, master; the Governor Goodwin, McGrath, master; and the Laura Nelson, Prout, master; that deponent hauled a sufficiency of herring for bait for the Webster Lauburn and Governor Goodwin, and that the master of the Laura Nelson, with deponent's seine, hauled bait enough for himself on the Sunday.

HUMPHRY ^{his} + SULLIVAN.
mark.

Sworn to before me at Great Placentia, this 11th day of October, A. D., 1877.

T. O'REILLY,

Commissioner of Affidavits at G. P.

I, Frederic B. T. Carter, a notary public duly admitted and sworn, practising at St. John's, Newfoundland, do hereby certify that Thomas O'Reilly, who has subscribed his name "T. O'Reilly, commissioner of affidavits," to the jurat of the affidavit of Humphrey Sullivan, written on the first page of this sheet of paper, is the proper handwriting of said Thomas O'Reilly, one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace, and a commissioner of affidavits in Newfoundland aforesaid, and that full faith and credit should be given to his acts in said capacity as well in court as thereout.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my seal of office and subscribed my name, this 23d day of October, A. D., 1877.

[L. S.]

F. B. T. CARTER,

Notary Public.

APPENDIX R.

No. 1.

Gloucester Mutual Fishing Insurance Company.

No. _____ This Policy of Insurance Witnesseth, That the Gloucester Mutual Fishing Insurance Company, in Gloucester, do by these Presents, cause _____ for whom it may concern, To be Insured, lost or not lost, _____ Hundred _____ Dollars, on seven-eighths _____ of the Schooner _____ and _____ Hundred _____ Dollars on the Outfits or Catch, _____ Commencing this day and terminating the thirtieth day of November next, at 12 o'clock, noon; And to be insured in the manner prescribed by the By-Laws, and to be subject to all the restraints and liabilities therein set forth.

Vessel valued at \$..... And especially does this Company agree to insure only seven-eighths of any one vessel, nor over eight thousand dollars on any one risk.

The owner or owners, in all cases who are insured by this Company, shall always have one-eighth of said vessel, as valued by the Directors, on his or their own risk, and shall not be allowed to insure said one-eighth, or any portion thereof elsewhere.

Vessel Insured, \$..... This Company does not insure against Barratry of the Master or mariners.

No claim for loss on, or damage to, Fresh or Frozen Fish, Salt Her- ring in bulk, Dories, Trawl Gear, Nets, Seine, or Seine Boat, shall be allowed by this Company, unless in case of total loss of vessel.

Cargo Insured, \$..... The insurers shall not be liable for any partial loss on Salt, Coal, Grain, Cured Fish, or Fruit, either preserved or otherwise, or other goods that are esteemed perishable in their own nature, when carried on freight, or on the freight thereon, unless it amounts to 10 per cent. on the whole aggregate value of such articles. and happen by stranding.

Outfits Insured, \$..... No claims shall be had for Outfits or Catch, insured, unless the loss amounts to or exceeds 10 per cent. on the value of outfits or catch on board at the time of loss, and that loss shall be caused by fire or the dangers of the sea.

\$..... It is also agreed that this Company shall not be liable in any case for loss on or damage to Outfits or Cargo carried on deck, nor for loss or damage to the cargo of any vessel employed in freighting, unless the loss amounts to 20 per cent. of the value of said cargo, and then for the excess above 15 per cent. only.

Amount of Pre-
mium Note, \$..... No vessel shall be insured by this Company except those hailing from Gloucester.

\$..... No vessel shall be insured by the Company while engaged in the business of carrying Sand or Stone.

If there be any Lime on board, one hundred per cent. to be added to the premium for the passage.

Policy, \$1.00. No claim for loss on the hull of a vessel shall be allowed by this Company, unless said loss or damage shall amount to the following percentage on the whole value of said vessel as valued in the

Policy, after deducting one-third for new, viz :— A vessel valued at \$7,500 and upwards, $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ; \$7,000 to \$7,500, 6 per cent. ; \$6,500 to \$7,000, $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ; \$6,000 to \$6,500, 7 per cent. ; \$5,500 to \$6,000, $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ; \$5,000 to \$5,500, 8 per cent. ; \$4,500 to \$5,000, 9 per cent. ; \$4,000 to \$4,500, $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ; \$3,500 to \$4,000, $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ; \$3,000 to \$3,500, 11 per cent. ; \$2,500 to \$3,000, 12 per cent. ; \$2,000 to \$2,500, 14 per cent. ; \$1,500 to \$2,000, 18 per cent. ; \$1,000 to \$1,500, 25 per cent. ; all under \$1,000, 30 per cent.

Cables, Anchors, and Boats to be at the risk of the owners in all cases, except a total loss of vessel. Sails, Rigging, Masts, and all other appurtenances belonging to the vessel, to be at the risk of the owners, in all cases, except the loss on them at one time amounts to the following percentage on the whole value of the vessel as valued in the Policy, viz :— A vessel valued at \$8,000 and upwards, 10 per cent. ; \$7,000 to \$8,000, 12 per cent. ; \$6,000 to 7,000, 14 per cent. ; \$5,000 to \$6,000, 16 per cent. ; \$4,000 to \$5,000, 18 per cent. ; \$3,000 to \$4,000, 20 per cent. ; \$2,000 to \$3,000, 24 per cent. ; \$1,500 to \$2,000, 30 per cent. ; all under \$1,500, 35 per cent. ; and under such adjustment one-third shall be deducted for new.

Notice of any claim on the Company for damages shall be given to the Company within ten days of the arrival of the vessel, or no loss will be allowed. No vessel receiving damage, whereby the Company becomes liable, shall in any event be sold until directions to that effect shall have been communicated to the Master or Agent from the Company.

Cables and Anchors lost or sacrificed on the fishing grounds shall not be paid for by the Company, in any case, except total loss of vessel.

Gilt work or carving shall not, when lost or damaged, be paid for except in cases of total loss of vessel.

In adjusting partial losses the bowsprit of a vessel shall be considered a spar.

In cases of disaster to any Vessel insured, it shall be lawful for the insurers to take possession of and repair the damage, and to demand of the owners their proportion of the expense thereof, and the acts of the insured or insurers in taking possession thereof to save, preserve or repair the same, shall not be deemed to be a waiver or acceptance or admission of an abandonment,—provided such Vessel shall be repaired and returned to the owners within four months from the date of the disaster. No claim for Total Loss shall be allowed by this Company, unless the cost of repairs (according to the Laws of the Company), at one time, after deducting one-third for new, amounts to fifty per cent. of the value of the Vessel as in the Policy. And the insurers are not in any case to be held to pay for any loss or damage by restraint, seizure or detention, by any legal or illegal power whatsoever, or for any damage, accident or loss, which may happen or occur to any Vessel while she may be under such restraint, detention or seizure. Nor will this Company, under any circumstances, pay for copper, or any other metallic material, used as a covering for the bottom of vessels except in cases of total loss, in which case the copper shall belong to the insurers; and copper or other metallic material used as aforesaid, shall not be considered at all in the adjustment of a partial loss. Vessels and Owners liable for deposit and premium notes.

The rates of premium for the current year, to commence on the date of application shall be as follows: From November 16th to November 30th of next year, 9 per cent. ; from December 10th to November 30th of next year, 8 per cent. ; from January 1st to November 30th of the same year, 7 per cent. ; from January 15th to November 30th of the

same year, $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; from February 1st to November 30th of the same year, 6 per cent.; from March 1st to November 30th of the same year, $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; from April 1st to November 30th of the same year, 5 per cent.; from May 15th to November 30th of the same year, $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; from July 1st to November 30th of the same year, 4 per cent. Two and one-half per cent. extra on the amount insured to be added to the premium of any vessel employed in the Greenland fisheries, or any business east of Flemish Cap or the forty-fifth degree of longitude; one per cent. for any vessel sailing on a voyage to Newfoundland, between the 16th of November, 1876, and the 1st of March, 1877; one-half of one per cent. to be added if employed in the Bay of Island fisheries on or after October 1st next, at 12 o'clock, noon; one-half of one per cent. to be added for any vessel engaged in the Georges fishery or any fisheries north and east of Georges which has not arrived in Gloucester harbor on or before October 15th, at 12 o'clock, noon; or for any vessel sailing on a voyage to Georges or any fishing grounds north or east of Georges, between October 15th and November 15th; and one-half of one per cent. extra premium on any vessel sailing on a voyage or employed in any business easterly from Cape Sable, between October 31st and November 15th, at 12 o'clock, noon. And upon all risks not above provided for, the Directors shall have power to fix equitable rates for extra premiums to be charged and paid by the insured.

No vessel shall sail from the harbor of Gloucester on or after the fifteenth day of November next, at noon, at the risk of this Company. A vessel so sailing is not insured under this Policy. The Policy of any vessel not having arrived from the voyage she then is on, November 30th, at 12 o'clock, noon, shall be continued until her arrival, a premium at the rate of one and one-half per cent per month, to be paid by the insured for such extension.

Whenever the Directors shall require it, a survey shall be called upon any vessel receiving damages supposed sufficient to entitle them to repairs by the Company, and such repairs, when ordered by said survey, shall be made as such survey shall direct, and be done in a faithful and workman-like manner, one-third to be deducted for new in the adjustment of the loss.

And so the President and Directors aforesaid are contented, and do hereby bind the property of the said Insurance Company, to be insured, executors, administrators, and assigns, for the true performance of the premises, confessing themselves paid the consideration due unto them for this insurance by the insured, at and after the rate of _____ per cent. for the term, with any extra premium above provided for, and in case a further amount shall be required to pay losses, in excess of said premium and extras, all such sums as may be levied on the premiums earned to pay such excess of losses.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the President hath signed, and the Secretary hath countersigned, at Gloucester, this _____ day of _____ one thousand eight hundred and seventy-_____.

GEORGE STEELE, *President.*

Secretary.

No. 2.

BY-LAWS of the Gloucester Mutual Fishing Insurance Company for the years 1876-77.—Adopted November, 1876.—George Steele, President ; N. D. Cunningham, Vice-President ; Cyrus Story, Secretary and Treasurer.

Article 1. This Company shall be governed by a board of ten Directors, who shall be chosen from the Stockholders at the annual meeting of the Company by a stock vote ; one of whom shall be chosen by the Directors to act as President, and another to act as Vice-President. The duties of the President (and in his absence the Vice-President,) shall be to preside at all meetings of the Board, or of the Stockholders, and to perform such other duties as may be required of them.

The Directors shall have power in case there is a vacancy on the Board caused either by non-acceptance, resignation or death, to choose from among the Stockholders some person or persons to fill the vacancy ; they shall also have the power to appoint a Secretary and Treasurer, and to fix upon salaries to be paid to the officers of the Company.

Article 2. The President and Directors shall superintend the concerns of the Company, and have the management and direction of all things not otherwise herein provided for. They shall provide a suitable office for the transaction of business, and furnish it in such a manner as they shall think proper ; they shall cause to be kept by the Secretary a fair record of all their transactions, and shall report at the annual meeting in each year, a detailed account of the concerns of the Company, which report, when accepted, shall be entered upon the records of the Company.

Article 3. The Secretary shall keep the books and accounts, shall collect and receive all monies, and pay the same over to the Treasurer as soon as received ; shall fill up and record all policies and orders, notify meetings, and perform such other duties of the office as the President and Directors may require.

Article 4. The Treasurer shall take charge of all the funds of the Company, and deposit the same in some Bank in Gloucester, in the name of the company. He shall pay out money by order of the Directors, and all checks must be countersigned by the President. He shall give such bonds for the performance of his duties as the Directors may require.

Article 5. The President, in addition to his duties of presiding at meetings, shall sign all policies, and shall order the payment of all monies by the Treasurer, with the consent and approval of the Directors, (and countersign all checks drawn for the payment of monies aforesaid ;) and in his absence, the Vice-President shall perform such duties.

Article 6. All applications for insurance shall be made in writing, and signed by the person or agent making such application, and shall specify the amount on the vessel and outfits (catch to be considered as outfits) or cargo separately, insurance to commence on the date of the application, and shall be binding on both parties until action is taken upon said application by the Directors at their next meeting, and until the expiration of the Policy, unless disapproved by the Directors at that meeting ; notice of such disapproval to be given to the applicant immediately after such action.

Article 7. No vessel shall be insured by this Company except those hailing from Gloucester.

Article 8. The stock of this Company shall be held in shares valued

at one thousand dollars each; and for each of such shares held by the stockholders a promissory note of two hundred dollars, payable on demand, with satisfactory security, shall be given to the Company, and upon each amount of said two hundred dollars, assessment may be levied by the Directors for such sums as may from time to time be required for the use of the Company.

Article 9. All stock notes shall be signed and endorsed before any application for insurance can be received.

Article 10. Any responsible person who has property to the amount of five hundred dollars to be insured, may take one-half a share of the stock of the Company, and one share for each additional thousand dollars he may wish to have insured.

Article 11. After the closing of the stock book, no person shall retire from the Company, or cease to be a member thereof, but shall be firmly held until the business of the Company for the year shall be settled.

Article 12. All matters relating to the government of the Company shall be decided by the Directors in all cases where they are not instructed by the stockholders at a regularly notified meeting.

Article 13. The Directors shall call meetings of the stockholders at such times as they may think proper. And upon notice in writing signed by five or more stockholders, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call a meeting as requested by them.

Article 14. Special meetings of stockholders shall be notified either verbally or by leaving a written or printed notice at each stockholder's place of business two days before the time of holding such meeting.

Article 15. Each stockholder shall be entitled to one vote for each share of stock held by him, and in case a person is the holder of a single half share, he shall be entitled to one vote.

Article 16. No alteration shall be made in the laws for the government of this Company, except at a regularly notified meeting of the stockholders, two-thirds of the number of stockholders to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and two-thirds present acting in the affirmative to decide.

Article 17. No loss will be allowed by this Company on the hull of a vessel, unless said loss or damage shall amount to the following percentage on the whole value of the vessel as valued in the policy, after deducting one-third for new, viz:—

A vessel valued at \$7,500 and upwards,	5½ per cent.
“ “ from 7,000 to \$7,500,	6 per cent.
“ “ “ 6,500 to 7,000,	6½ per cent.
“ “ “ 6,000 to 6,500,	7 per cent.
“ “ “ 5,500 to 6,000,	7½ per cent.
“ “ “ 5,000 to 5,500,	8 per cent.
“ “ “ 4,500 to 5,000,	9 per cent.
“ “ “ 4,000 to 4,500,	9½ per cent.
“ “ “ 3,500 to 4,000,	10½ per cent.
“ “ “ 3,000 to 3,500,	11 per cent.
“ “ “ 2,500 to 3,000,	12 per cent.
“ “ “ 2,000 to 2,500,	14 per cent.
“ “ “ 1,500 to 2,000,	18 per cent.
“ “ “ 1,000 to 1,500,	25 per cent.
All under 1,000	30 per cent.

Cables, anchors and boat to be at the risk of the owners in all cases, except a total loss of vessel.

Sails, rigging, masts, and all other appurtenances belonging to the vessel to be at the risk of the owners in all cases, except the loss on

them at one time amounts to the following percentage on the whole value of the vessel as valued in the policy, viz. :—

A vessel valued at \$8,000, and upwards,	10 per cent.
“ “ from 7,000 to \$8,000,	12 per cent.
“ “ “ 6,000 to 7,000,	14 per cent.
“ “ “ 5,000 to 6,000,	16 per cent.
“ “ “ 4,000 to 5,000,	18 per cent.
“ “ “ 3,000 to 4,000,	20 per cent.
“ “ “ 2,000 to 3,000,	24 per cent.
“ “ “ 1,500 to 2,000,	30 per cent.
All under 1,500	35 per cent.

And under such adjustment one-third shall be deducted for new ; but the Directors are authorized and empowered, in case of partial loss, under this article, to compromise with the assured when in their judgment it would be for the interest of the Company so to do.

Article 18. Whenever the Directors shall require it, a survey shall be called upon any vessel receiving damages supposed sufficient to entitle them to repairs by the Company, and such repairs when ordered by said survey, shall be made as they shall direct and be done in a faithful and workmanlike manner, and with good materials, one-third to be deducted for new in the adjustment of the loss ; said repairs to be made under the direction of the Directors when practicable ; notice of such damage to be given within ten days of the arrival of the vessel, or no loss will be allowed.

Article 19. In case any vessel insured by this Company shall be stranded, and the master or owner shall think it for the interest of the Company to get such vessel off and save the property, the Company do hereby pledge themselves to pay their proportion of all reasonable charges which may arise in consequence of such condition, whether successful or not.

Article 20. No claim for a total loss shall be allowed by this Company, unless the cost of repairs (according to the laws of the Company,) at one time, after deducting one-third for new, amounts to fifty per cent. of the value of the vessel as in the Policy.

Article 21. This Company will insure the outfits or cargo of any Gloucester vessel. The amount to be insured on such outfits or cargo shall be designated in the Policy separately from the vessel, but no claim shall be allowed for the sum so insured, unless the loss amounts to or exceeds 10 per cent. of the value of said outfits or cargo on board at the time of loss, and that loss shall be caused by fire or by the danger of the seas. No claim for loss on, or damage to outfits or cargo carried on deck shall be allowed by the Company. In adjusting losses on outfits, the whole catch shall be considered as outfits.

Article 22. Each and every stockholder shall furnish vessels, outfits or cargo to be insured, the amount of insurance of which shall be at least seven-eighths of the amount of stock subscribed by him ; should he fail to comply with the above requirement, he shall be held to pay the lowest rate of premium on such sum as shall make the required amount.

Article 23. This Company will not be held for any loss or damage by restraint or seizure by any legal or illegal power whatsoever, or for accident or damage which may happen to any vessel while she may be under such restraint or seizure.

Article 24. Sixty days from the supposed or known loss of any vessel, the insured may make the same known to the Company, and furnish a written statement of the destination of the vessel, and such other facts as the Directors may deem of importance ; and if on mature delibera-

tion they should think that sufficient reason has been assigned to cause the belief that the vessel has been lost, they shall cause the Secretary to lay an assessment upon all the stock notes sufficient to cover the loss on the vessel, and such assessment shall be levied and collected within thirty days, and the loss adjusted with the parties forthwith.

Article 25. In case of disagreement regarding any loss which may take place in this Company, the parties agrieved shall make a written statement of the facts in the case, and the Directors shall also make a similar statement, and if the loss cannot be adjusted by the parties, a reference shall be chosen in the manner pointed out by the laws of the Commonwealth, and their decision shall be final. And losses shall be made up by some person not interested in the Company when the insured so request.

Article 26. This Company will not insure over eight thousand dollars on any one vessel and her outfits or cargo.

Article 27. No vessel insured by this Company receiving damage whereby the Company becomes liable, shall in any event be sold until directions to that effect shall have been communicated to the master or agent from the Company.

Article 28. No vessel shall be insured by this Company for more than seven-eighths of her value as decided upon by the Directors, the owners of the vessel in all cases risking one-eighth of said value.

Article 29. Gilt work or carving shall not, when lost or damaged, be paid for by the Company except in case of total loss of vessel.

Article 30. Cables or anchors lost or sacrificed on the fishing grounds, shall not be paid for by the Company in any case, except total loss of vessel.

Article 31. In adjusting partial losses, the bow-sprit of a vessel shall be considered a spar.

Article 32. No vessel shall sail from the harbor of Gloucester upon any voyage whatever after the fifteenth day of November next, at noon, at the risk of this Company. Any vessel not having arrived from the voyage, she then is on November 15th, at 12 o'clock, noon, shall pay a premium at the rate of one and one-half per cent. per month until her arrival. The Policy on such vessel to be continued until her arrival as aforesaid.

Article 33. This Company will not, under any circumstances, pay for copper or any other metallic material used as a covering for the bottom of vessels, except in case of total loss, in which case the copper or other material shall belong to the insurers, and copper or other metallic material used as aforesaid, shall not be considered at all in the adjustment of a partial loss.

Article 34. The rates of premium for the current year shall be as follows:

From Nov. 16 to Nov. 30 of next year, 9 per cent.

"	Dec. 10	"	"	"	"	8	"
"	Jan. 1	"	"	"	same	7	"
"	" 15	"	"	"	"	6½	"
"	Feb. 1	"	"	"	"	6	"
"	Mar. 1	"	"	"	"	5½	"
"	Apr. 1	"	"	"	"	5	"
"	May 15	"	"	"	"	4½	"
"	July 1	"	"	"	"	4	"

But when either of said dates shall fall on Sunday, then the premium upon applications made on the next day preceding shall be computed under the rate of the date so occurring on said Sunday. One per cent. on amount insured to be added to the premium of any vessel employed

in the Newfoundland fisheries between the 15th of November and the 1st of March next ensuing.

Article 35. A return premium may be allowed whenever any policy issued by this company shall be canceled.

Article 36. At the close of the business of the year, if it should appear that a profit had been made in the business of the company, the same shall be divided among the premiums earned by insurance on the stock held by each stockholder; and should there be a loss in the business of the company, the same shall be assessed according to the above-named conditions as regards profit.

No. 3.

FISHING SHIPPING PAPER.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—DISTRICT OF GLOUCESTER.

IT IS AGREED between ———, agent or owner of the Schooner ———, qualified by law for carrying on the BANK and other FISHERIES of the United States, and ——— Master or Skipper of the said Schooner, and the Fishermen whose names are to this agreement subscribed, that the said ——— will at ——— own expense, equip the said Schooner ——— with all the necessary tackle and apparel for a fishing voyage or voyages; the provision, salt, and craft shall be provided and paid for by ——— and that said ——— Master or Skipper, with the said Fishermen will pursue the Cod or other Fisheries, in the Schooner ——— during the present fishing season, and will use their best endeavors to procure all the Fish, Oil, &c., they can, and for the success of the voyage or voyages they may go; and will be ready at all times, and will never leave the said Schooner ——— without permission from the Owner or Master thereof. And it is agreed that the owner or Agent may dispose of and sell all the Fish, Oil, &c., that may be landed from the said Schooner whenever he may think proper, and after deducting from the Gross Stock all charges for Ice, Bait, Straw for Bait, and Nippers, the net proceeds to be divided, one-half to the Owner or Owners, the remaining half among the Fishermen, in proportion to the quantity or number of fish which they shall have respectively caught, each man paying his proportion of the expense of Packing Mackerel, Freight and expense in shipping Fish, &c., home, in accordance with the number or quantity caught, and each one of the Crew with the Skipper to pay an equal part of the following charges, viz: Cooking, Sawing, Wood, Water, Hoisting, Medicine, scraping masts, and tarring rigging. And the said owner doth hereby stipulate and agree with said fishermen, that he will render a just and true account of the delivery and sales of said Fish, Oil, &c.

And it is further Agreed between the parties, that the Master or Skipper, together with the fishermen, are entitled to all the benefits and privileges, and subject to all the duties and penalties, provided by a law of the United States, entitled "An Act concerning certain Fisheries of the United States, and for the Regulation and Government of Fishermen employed therein."

Time of Entry.	Men's Names.	Quality.	Witness to their Sign- ing.	Time for which they Engage.
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Countersigned, ———, Owner or Agent.

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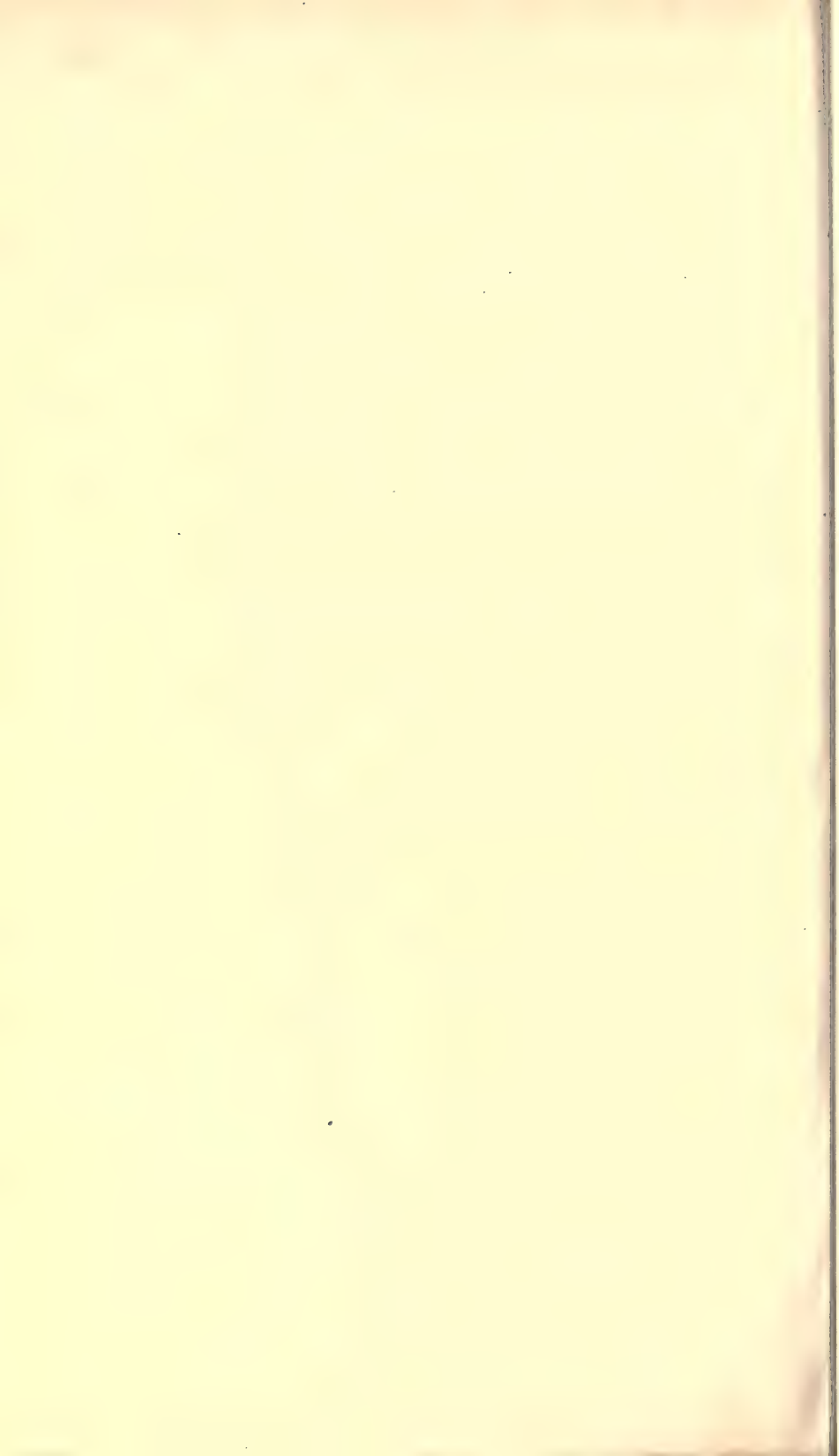
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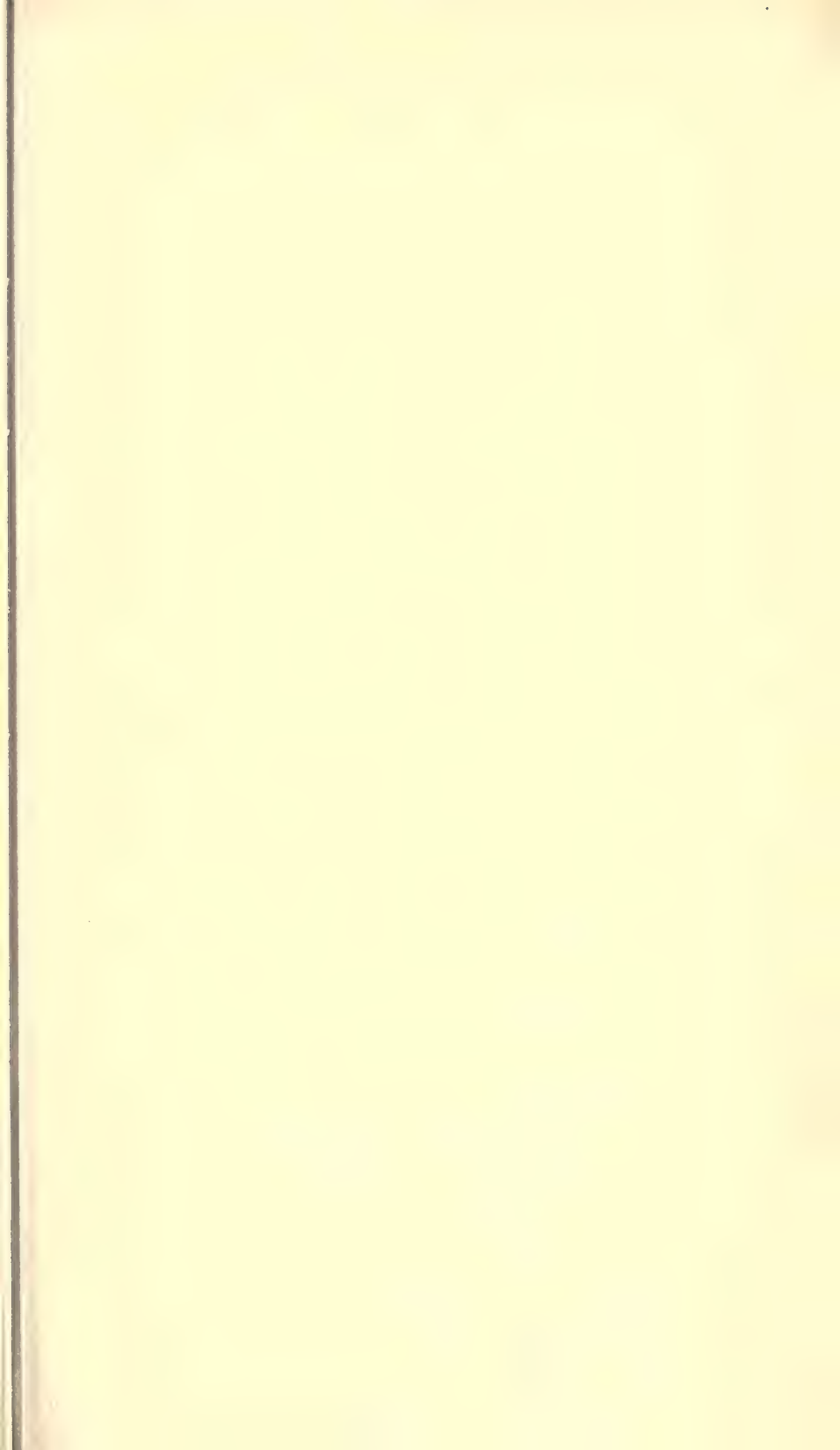
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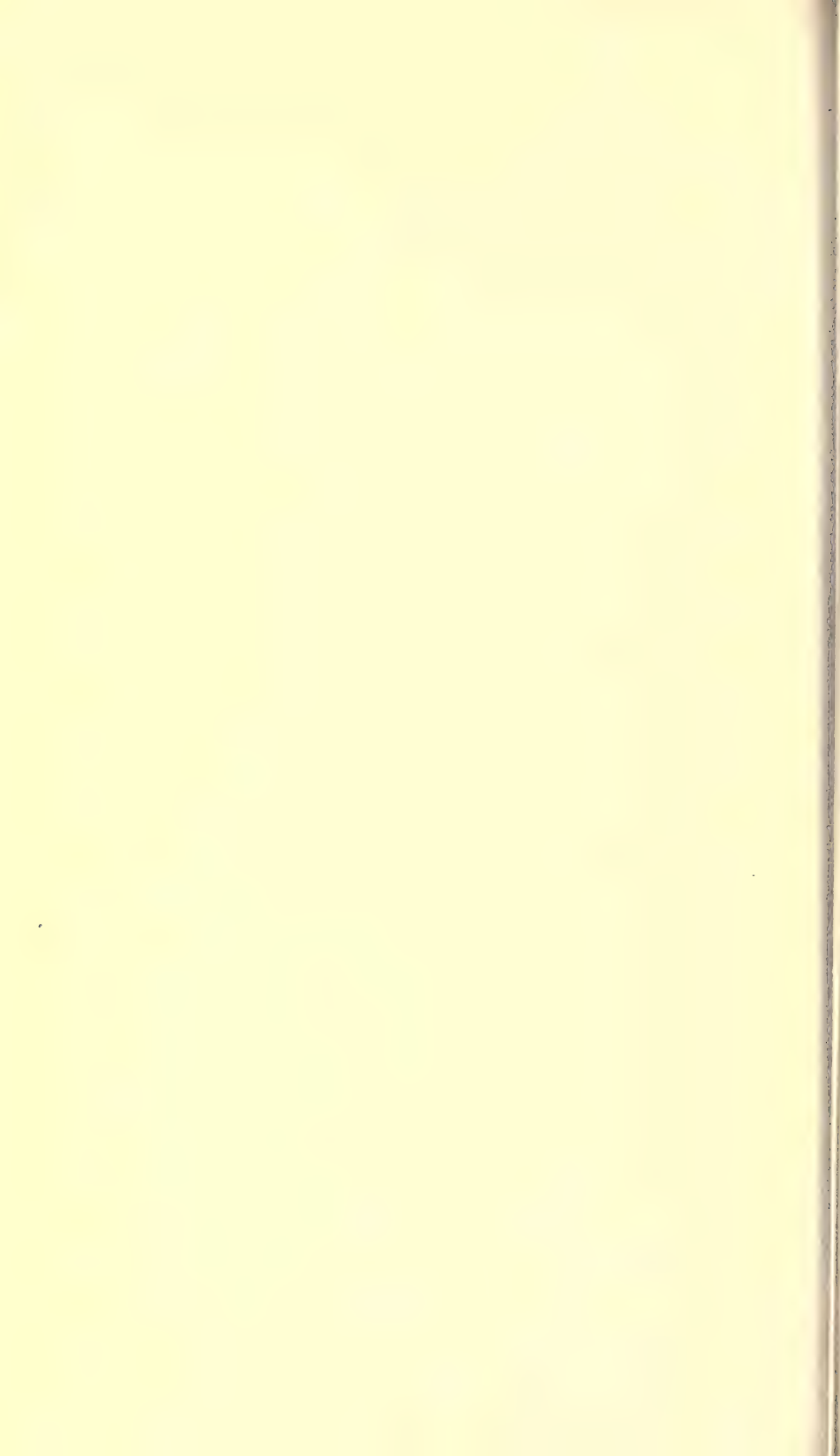
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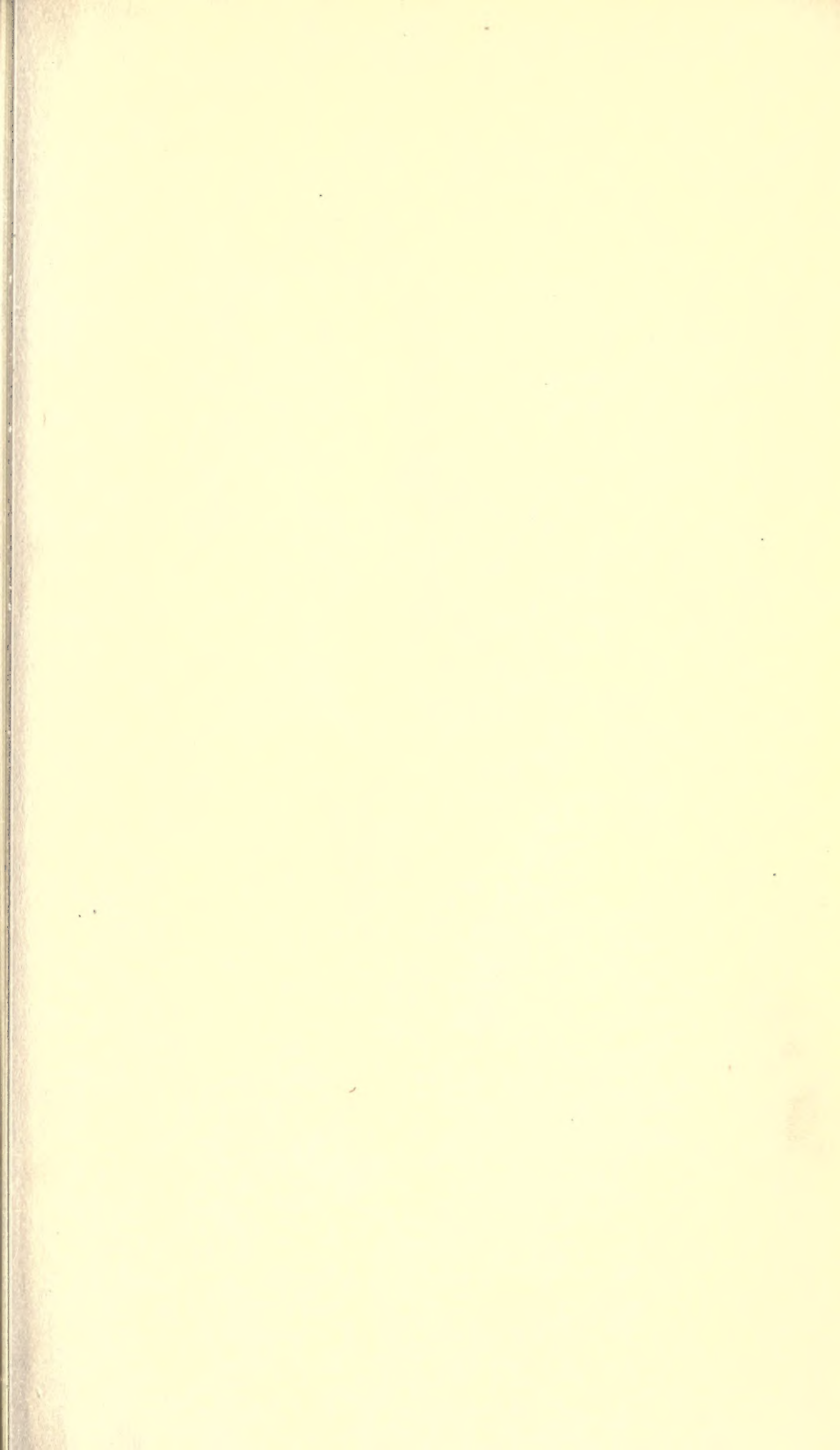
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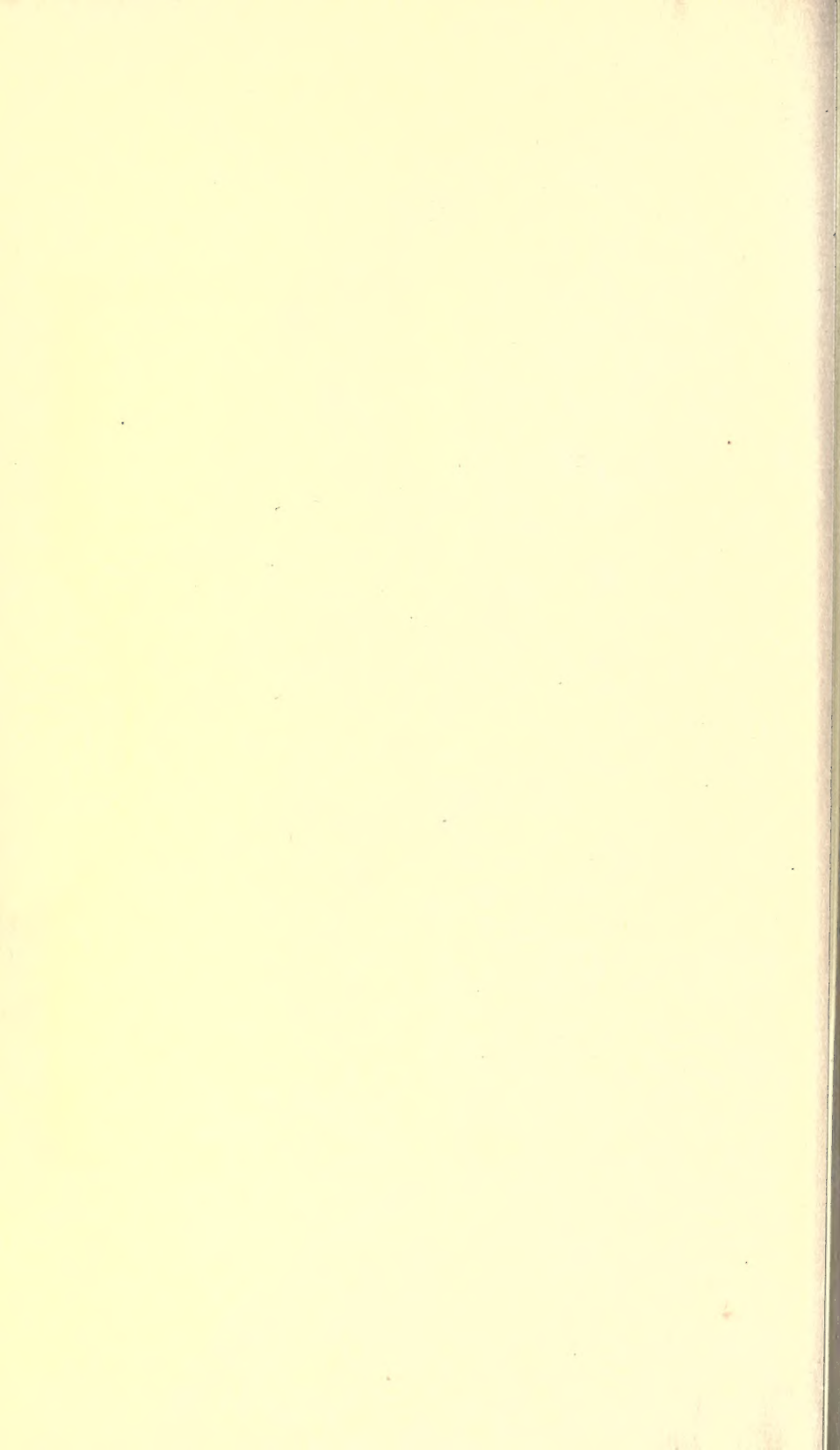
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